

New Mission News

COMFORTING THE AFFLICTED AND AFFLICTING THE COMFORTABLE SINCE 1980 JANUARY 2002



Collage by Victor Navarrete

The state of the arts in the Mission 2002

A resilient arts community will continue to thrive in the coming year

by M. Toby Levine

The Mission is blessed with a rich, highly textured arts community. Deborah Cullinan of Intersection for the Arts states that, "Art can bring people together. Using stories and metaphors, words, rhythm and images, art can build bridges across perceived barriers, shift our perceptions and potentially change our way of being in the world." Now, that is a blessing!

There are over 100 artists' studios in the Mission, where a profusion of works from sacred art to ceramics are created, works ranging from giant glass installations to highly refined etchings to *verre eglomise* (the painting of a design on the back of decorative glass). Artists in the Mission are animators, sculptors, painters, fine and fun furniture makers, photographers, jewelers, muralists, weavers, producers of wearable art, multimedia artists, holographers and filmmakers.

They are also poets, writers, composers, dancers, actors, scenic designers and musicians. Some practice in solo studios, while others work in collectives or shared studio space.

The "ecosystem"

The artists show their work at the annual "Open Studios" as well as in the many galleries that dot the neighborhood, and throughout San Francisco. Precita Eyes

Mural Center, possessing an international reputation, brings thousands of visitors from around the world to see the extraordinary work on Mission walls. Unfortunately, many of us who are local take this artwork for granted.

Mission artists are connected to over 46 arts groups that provide venues, education, support, ideas, and opportunities. The oldest is the Community Music Center, founded in 1921. The most recent is the about-to-be-born "Blue Room," a gallery and performance space that will be located on Mission Street between 19th and 20th.

The theater and dance cluster is the largest concentration of artists and they are a very diverse crew, representing many ethnicities and interests. The San Francisco Mime Troupe, now well over 40 years old, has a worldwide reputation for hard-hitting political theater. National reputations for experimentation, collaboration, and combining a variety of art forms are held by ODC, A Traveling Jewish Theater, the Multiplex Holography Studio, Dance Mission Theater and Intersection for the Arts.

The Mission Cultural Center for Latino Arts, has become the economic and artist anchor for the southern end of Mission Street in the Mission District. (The economic anchor honor was once held by Sears and Roebuck which was on the corner of Cesar Chavez and Mission.) The Cultural Center has become a beacon

for the neighborhood with its rich diversity of programming involving classes, gallery, theater space, programs for youth and several major annual events.

For a neighborhood to be successful in the arts, there must be an arts infrastructure (an "ecosystem") which supports the arts community. Since most artists and arts groups are not trying to become filthy rich, their spaces must be reasonably priced. Until recently, this was the case in the Mission.

Since artists often create large pieces, use difficult materials or have many people involved, their space must be flexible, industrial or highly technical. Such space was and is available in the Northeast Mission warehouses and factories and along the Mission corridor. Since artists want to communicate with the public and their community, they get their message

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An artist puts the finishing touches on one of Balmy alley's celebrated murals. Photo by K. Nicole Emmanuel.

John O'Connell soccer field mystery

Promised recreation area is missing from costly construction project

by Christopher Arellano

More than a year after John O'Connell High School of Technology reopened, school officials say they do not know if the campus will ever have the athletic fields once promised by the City.

"I have no idea," said Tony Irons, San Francisco Unified School District's Chief Operating Officer who oversees management of the District's real estate and construction projects. Irons said he has been in his job only three months and is not sure what happened before his arrival; he said he would try to find out

more information about the project, but was still investigating the matter at press time.

Joan Hepperly, principal of the 525-student school located at 2355 Folsom Street, referred questions about the school's proposed athletic fields to Irons and District spokeswoman Jackie Wright, while urging the media to focus instead on educational issues such as career pathways, which she said are aimed at helping the largely Latino school population.

In the Mission District, lack of recreational facilities has been identified as a

Continued on page 12

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Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. on the Selma march, March 1965.

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¹ 1958 (Harper) The title of Dr. Martin Luther King's first published book about his recollections of the Montgomery Bus Boycott.

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The People's Plan for the Land

GUEST OPINION

by Oscar Grande

A couple of years ago, the digital revolution came bursting into the Mission with promises of high-paying jobs, good schools, and better neighborhoods. In reality, the dot-com boom accelerated the evictions of thousands of long-term residents and merchants. The greedy aspired to make ridiculous amounts of money off of the blood, sweat and tears of San Francisco's immigrants, workers, youth, elders and communities of color. What this so-called digital revolution gave us was widespread gentrification and the broken hearts of thousands of everyday residents, workers, artists, students and merchants who were forced to leave the Mission village they love.

In the thick of the battle to save our homes and businesses, the Mission Anti-displacement Coalition (MAC) was formed as a way for neighborhood folks to organize their voices and actions into a movement to change the business-as-usual attitude of the City's Planning Department & Planning Commission. We began to realize our power and the need to speak for ourselves through a true neighborhood plan that would allow low-income, working-class families and individuals to live and thrive.

The current decline in the economy

has shown us that, without real community leadership, our neighborhoods and our communities will always fall victim to the whims of the market and to the schemers who pull its strings.

Realizing that short-term goals and one-time actions need to be connected to a broad-based multi-issue movement, MAC has begun unfolding a vision for long-term social change that addresses the root causes of gentrification. Over the past several months, MAC has been working on a community-based planning process.

The need for deeper organizing and broader inclusion of neighborhood residents, workers and merchants in land-use decision making in the Mission District has brought together many grassroots organizations and individuals in a two-year campaign simply called the People's Plan for Land, a plan for just and equitable land use and community development.

The short-term goal for the People's Plan for Land includes rezoning the Mission District to fit the needs of the low-to-moderate income families and individuals who are usually excluded from real decision-making. Through rezoning, the seeds of change can be planted to reflect the housing, commercial, recreational, health, and cultural needs of the people. For example, current vacant sites in the neighborhood can be rezoned for affordable housing, parks or

other uses that benefit the community.

Once the rezoning of the neighborhood gets underway, over the next year or so, the long-term approach of the People's Plan for Land requires us to organize and demand that the buildings get built.

Currently, Mission Agenda, St. Peter's Housing Committee, Mission Economic Development Association, Mission Housing Development Corporation, People Organizing to Demand Environmental & Economic Rights (PODER) and other grassroots organizations are holding workshops with core groups of neighborhood promotoras. These promotoras will be actively organizing in the neighborhood to ensure that people who are otherwise impacted by unjust land use decisions will not be left out of the planning process. Focus groups and one-time forums are not the only way to go about this; on-the-ground organizing tactics that include door-to-door outreach and information gathering are at the core of the campaign.

Let's be realistic: we all know that the daily grind of survival leaves many us tired and beaten at the end of the day, so an evening meeting, even with food, is not necessarily appealing. But all these mixed together—forums, workshops, focus groups, pachangas and door-to-door outreach—will definitely prove a better solution than going to 3-minute, English-only public comment periods at the Planning Commission.

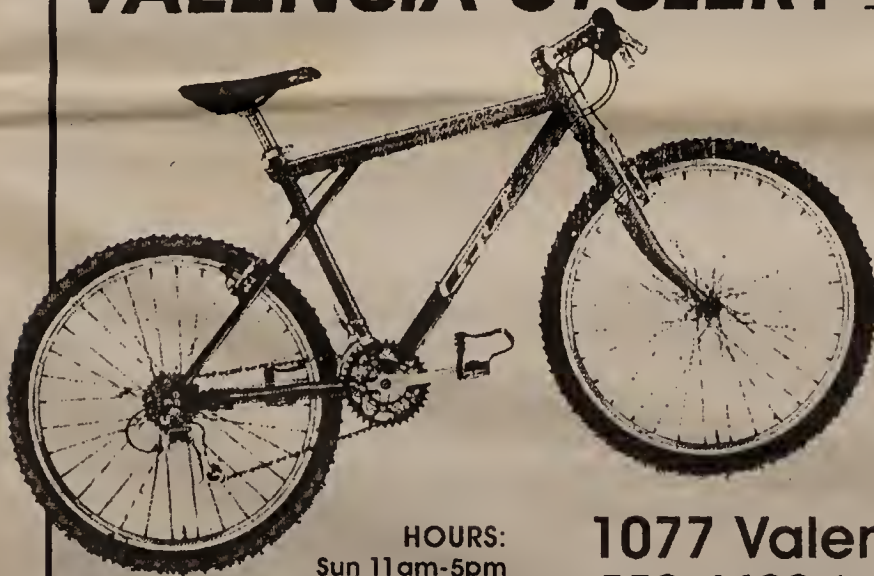
Last and most important, a major goal of the People's Plan for Land is to share and make known the expert knowledge that exists in the barrio among the people who live, work, study and play here. We can then use this knowledge to develop true leaders and build the power of Mission residents and workers to plan, organize and implement laws that empower, not hurt, our communities.

On February 12 at 6 PM, at the ODC Theater on 17th and Shotwell Streets, the Mission Anti-Displacement Coalition will have the first of many community-wide forums on the future uses of land in the North East Mission Industrial Zone (NEMIZ). Join families, workers, elders, youth, artists and merchants as we break down to the City's Planning Department what's really goin' on and what we want to do about it. Food, translation, and childcare will be provided. For more information, please call Oscar at PODER, 431-4210.

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3288 21 ST STREET Box #202
SF, CA 94110
PH: 415-695-8702 FX: 415-695-2838
E-MAIL vmiller4@mindspring.com
Editor-in-Chief
Victor Miller
Ad Design
Lex McCloud
Copy Editor
Peter Claudius
Photographers
ve miller,
Writers
Victor Miller, Silicon Satan, Library Lady, Sonny Smith, Richard Pitt, Tom Ammiano, Oscar Grande Jill Winkelstein, Toby Levine, Chris Arellano, Oliver Chin
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VOTERS CURRENTLY REGISTERED	29,932	453,961
BALLOTS CAST THIS ELECTION	4,057	75,248
VOTER TURNOUT	13.55%	16.58%
CANDIDATE	NUMBER of VOTES	PERCENT of VOTES
Jim Lazarus	35,727	47.64
Dennis Herrera	38,952	18.31
Write-in Candidate	318	.42

Whatever floats your vote

Ridicule by vmiller

Heavy scrutiny by the State of California and an army of politicians salivating for another election scandal seems to have kept the runoff election for city attorney an honest one, and it is therefore most instructive that the big money candidate, Lazarus, lost. It makes you wonder about whatever floats your vote

Ridicule by vmiller several other close races in the past, wherein moneyed interests won amid curious circumstances (the stadium, growth control, public power). Would the results have been different if they had been monitored as closely?

The city attorney runoff may be the exception that proves the rule, the rule being: elections in this town are crooked or incompetently run in a manner which always favors the rich and the powerful.

The abysmally poor turnout, in a competition for what has been called the second most important office in city government, would seem to leave Mr. Herrera without a mandate from the voters, but this is not true. 83% of the registered voters, those that stayed home, have let Mr. Herrera know that they really don't care what he does.

The choice of just over 8% of the registered voters, Mr. Herrera would be well advised not to become giddy from the subdued roar of the fractionalized crowd and invite surviving members of al-Qaeda over for dinner, or appear naked in public too often; but within these parameters San Franciscans are content to let Herrera be Herrera, even if they are unsure what that entails.

There is some hopeful expectation among professional journalists and all of those who need a little cheering up that he will commit some ludicrous act or acts of buffoonery to fill the column inches of the former with derision and brighten the lives of the latter with laughter. The rest of the voters, except for the fringe group

of slightly less than 8% that went for Lazarus, have given Mr. Herrera what amounts to a blank check mandate to fill in as he wishes. Let the good times roll: it's time to party-hardy at the CA's office.

That said, there still remains the matter of the actual vote count. In the past the *New Mission News* has dispatched a minion to the Department of Elections to diligently collect the official tally for the City and our humble 'hood. From these figures we have drawn inferences about the shifting tides of public opinion, and have written what we believed to be sharp and witty editorials... but perhaps we acted too soon.

In our December 2001 issue, where we published the results of the November 2001 elections, bombshell revelations about irregularities were still cratering the political landscape and we found it necessary to add a caveat to the reported vote count, warning that it was subject to change pending further revelations of possible ballot-box tampering and/or jettisoning.

The revelations came and the caveat must, for the time being, remain. According to Supervisor Peskin, no fewer than five his fellow supervisors are currently investigating some aspect of the November 2000 and November 2001 elections.

Well, we at *New Mission News* have learned our lesson. Even though Mr. Herrera's micro-slide victory appears to be on the up and up, we are compelled by the standards of accurate reporting to warn our readers that the election results cited above may vary dramatically if ballot boxes are found floating in the Bay, Lake Merced, Stow Lake, Lake Alvarado or any other national or international body of water, if ballots are discovered stuck in ballot machines, at the homes of election workers, on the harbor seal rafts at Pier 39, at the campaign offices of one or both of the candidates, in envelopes sent out with PG&E bills, or on planes, trains or automobiles not designated as official tally vehicles by the Department of Elections, if polling places are found to have opened two days early, to have opened three hours late or to have closed two hours ahead of time, or if an investigation by the Secretary of State shows fraud or incompetence (unless an investigation of the Secretary of State's investigation by Supervisor Leno shows problems in the Secretary of State's methodology which would be reversed by an investigation by the California Attorney General of Supervisor Leno's investigation of the Secretary of State's investigation that demonstrated flagrant political posturing on the part of Supervisor Leno), if evidence is found of fraud or misconduct at hearings held by any municipal, state, national or international or interplanetary body (such as the Klingon High Council), or if the election turns out to have been a dream, an hallucination, or to have occurred in an alternate universe.

But seriously, well not too seriously, folks: congratulations to Mr. Herrera, the choice of some people, and God Bless America.

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SMART DEMOCRACY

Few people believe more strongly in democracy than I do: in fact, so strongly do I believe in it that, thanks to that wonderful invention, the absentee ballot, I voted five times in the November election. Of course, such displays of civic enthusiasm would not be possible, were it not for the groundbreaking efforts which the San Francisco Department of Elections has undertaken to deregulate the democratic process in this city.

And, we might add, it is not just for their courageous determination to free the ballot box from the chains of custody that Tammy Haygood and her staff deserve praise, but also for their very evident sense of economic patriotism. For, in this time of recession, when so many investments have come to naught, the Department of Elections has been quite steadfast in its resolve to see to it that at least one American company's investment pay off handsomely: that of PG&E in the campaign to defeat public power.

But what makes Ms. Haygood and her team particularly worthy of our admiration is that they understand—along with Katherine Harris, Jeb Bush and others who have thought these matters through—something very important: that, while America's democracy is naturally the greatest in the world, in order to ensure that this remains the case, it is occasionally necessary, for reasons of quality control, to discard those ballots which do not make the grade.

After all, why should a nation as advanced as ours settle for elections in which the right candidate or policy initiative wins only 50% of the time? Should we not instead take inspiration from our military and its brilliantly effective smart bombs, and demand a *smart democracy* that delivers results with 100% accuracy?

Unfortunately, the drive to modernize democracy, so that it takes into account not just the quantity of votes but their quality too, means that those of you who mark your "x" next to the wrong candidate or proposition may find that your ballot ends up, say, floating in San Francisco Bay.

Yet you should not be too hard on yourselves if, because you are unable to make the correct choices, your vote has to be discounted. For, as President Bush has shown, in order to set public policy in these trying times, one has to have a very sophisticated and highly attuned knowledge of what is right and wrong, good and evil—an almost superhuman ability to appreciate subtle moral and ethical distinctions that less discriminating folks such as yourselves simply cannot be expected to understand.

After all, how many of you could explain why secret military tribunals are good if conducted by our government, but quite wicked if carried out by Peru or China; or why blowing handcuffed POWs to bits would be a war crime if perpetrated by Serbs or Iraqis, but is nothing less than an act of heroism when our boys are the ones dropping the bombs?

Yet even though people like yourselves clearly know too little about the moral complexities of the world to be given a voice in the democratic process, you should nevertheless feel proud of what you *do* know, as this is what has allowed you to play, by your inaction, a key role in the transformation of democracy now underway all across America, from Palm Beach, Florida, to San Francisco, California. For by not taking to the streets to protest the abrogation of your right to vote, but instead sitting at home, popping your Prozac, and busying yourselves with next year's Burning Man theme camp or whatever else is more important to you than defending your civil liberties, you have shown that you know the only thing that people like you really need to know: your place.

Condolences, by the way, to the Aliotos who, despite their illustrious family history, last November made the voters an offer they were able to refuse: young Joey Alioto as public power commissioner. Luckily, though, as democracy becomes smart, candidates will no longer need to be. And so we can perhaps look forward to the day when every member of the Alioto clan—even one as unencumbered by intellect and experience as little Joey—can count on inheriting the elected office that is their birthright.

gifted. jennifer jason leigh

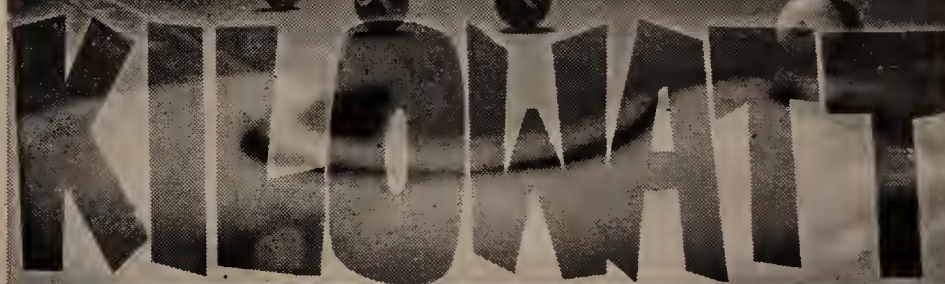
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Krissy Keefer, artistic director for Dance Brigade, premieres her new show *CaveWomen 2002* in January at Dance Mission Theater. Photo by Andy Mogg.

State of the arts

Continued from page 1

out through mailings, neighborhood newspapers, e-mail, postings and radio spots...but mostly through word-of-mouth.

A dramatic history

After the 1906 earthquake, a large section of the Mission District was burned out by the fire that swept through the City and only stopped at 20th Street. Over the next twenty years, the burned-out neighborhood was rebuilt on a larger scale, becoming something of a second downtown. Valencia Street became the City's center for funeral parlors (bring your dead to the Mission!), auto repair and small-scale wholesale and retail shops. Large department stores, fashionable furniture stores, movie houses and associated restaurants (plus neighborhood-serving businesses) emerged on Mission Street.

Medium to high-density residences were built throughout the district, with 16th Street and Valencia becoming home to numerous residential hotels. All of this eventually combined to create "The Miracle Mile."

After World War II, with the emergence of the automobile and easily accessible suburbs, families from all over The City, including the Mission, began moving away. As time passed, many industries and businesses left, taking their jobs with them. As a result, the neighborhood began to deteriorate. In the 1970's a proposal emerged from City Hall to redevelop the Mission. At the same time, the construction of BART under Mission Street, which lasted for three years, brought the "Miracle Mile" to a standstill and, in some cases, to bankruptcy. The notion of redevelopment was defeated by strong political forces, the residents and the Mission Coalition, a nationally recognized citizen-action group. A federal Model Cities program was established instead, and funds and resources began to flow into the neighborhood.

Meanwhile, the center of San Francisco's arts and its bohemia, North Beach, was beginning to lose its élan. During the 50's and 60's, North Beach was a powerful mecca for jazz, poetry

readings, artists and writers, all centered around clubs like the Hungry i, City Lights Bookstore and the Art Institute. By the mid to late 60s the neighborhood, which attracted residents and visitors interested in this special life-style, had become expensive. Artists began looking for other spaces, other venues for their activities. And voila...La Mission.

Intersection for the Arts was organized in 1965 (originally Mancussos' Mattress and Venetian Blinds). Project Artaud, the first artists' collective/live-work in the Mission, which had been a munitions factory during the war, was abandoned and then taken over by artist-squatters who were eventually able to gain control of the property in 1971. (Now I understand the meaning of "from swords to plowshares!")

Keep in mind that the Community Music Center and the S.F. Mime Troup (formerly the Fantasy Records building) already existed in the neighborhood. The Multiplex Holography Studio took over the old Homestead Bakery site in 1973; Southern Exposure (in the old munitions factory) was organized in 1974; the Mission Cultural Center (formerly a large furniture store) in 1977; ODC (J. Borg's Hardware Store) in 1980, and The Marsh (originally an Italian Social Club) in 1989. Because these buildings were either not being used or were available for an inexpensive price, enterprising artists were able to set up shop.

Hard times in 2002?

Though we have all been rocked by the attack on the World Trade Center and the subsequent "War on Terrorism" as well as the downturn in our City's economy, ArtSpan, which organizes the fall "Open Studio," stated that more San Francisco artists participated in the fall show than ever before...679 altogether. That is a lot of art! Further, more individuals interested in art attended "Open Studios" than ever before, and more art was sold. All this happened four weeks after 9/11.

This shows an amazing interest on the part of the public in the "Open Studio" format, now 26 years old, as one that needs continued support from the City and its residents. Nevertheless, the year ahead looks like it will be a challenging one and many groups are going to have to tighten their belts in the coming year.

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2001: a year in the hood



The Shotwell Street uprising was a success. Photo by Gary Stenger.

The dot-com denouement

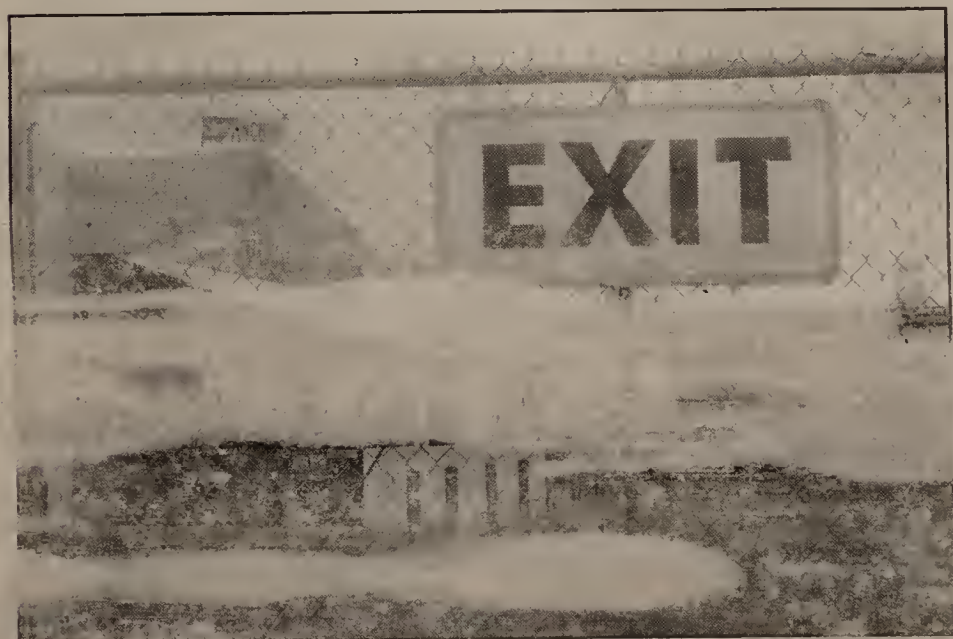
The dot-com epire went down for the count in 2001 and its final days were not pretty. Office buildings, erected at a breathless pace, now stand empty. The tempo of construction at some sites has slowed dramatically or stopped altogether, giving a frozen-in-time look to much of the Mission and South of Market, while documentary films and video productions recording the phenomena such as *BOOM! the Sound of Eviction* which had intended to be contemporary critiques became historical documentaries instead.

But in the Spring the d-c spawned real estate frenzy had still not spent its fury. A neighborhood staple for the econ-

omy conscious and those on a fixed income, Canned Foods' Grocery Outlet closed its doors on January 27th after 35 years in business. It will be replaced by a Best Electronics outlet.

Unscrupulous landlords scrambled to suck up the last dregs of gain by evicting long-term tenants from rent controlled buildings. One of the last battles of the dot-com era was fought on Shotwell Street, where three families threatened with eviction organized hundreds of their neighbors in boisterous protests (pictured above) that eventually saved their homes.

The party was over and the 'hood, with all of its flaws and simple pleasures, was back. A comparison of Mission census figures from 1990 and 2000 showed the Mission's ethnic diversity to be unchanged.



Best Buy Electronics will replace Canned Foods. Photo by v e miller

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The Dolores Street power monger palace. Photo by Gary Stenger

Blacked out

One of the most reliable aspects of modern life, electric power, suddenly became one of the great uncertainties as rolling blackouts and power shortages began to plague us. Deregulation, state population surges and conspiracies by ruthless energy providers were all blamed for the fiasco. It became abundantly clear that deregulation, intended to lower energy costs, was in fact providing an excuse for energy providers to gouge utility users even more viciously.

Meanwhile, PG&E was suddenly complaining of impending bankruptcy and asking the State for relief in the form of even more astronomical utility rates. The PG&E parent company posted a 300% increase in profits for the year.

But early on in the crisis all anyone knew was that the lights were going out. Public service bulletins by PG&E and soundbytes from sanctimonious public officials urged the imprudent public to curb power consumption by, among other things, switching off unnecessary lights. No agency was as stern in its warnings of waste or as self-congratulatory of its conservation efforts than the San Francisco Public Utilities Commission. Throughout the Commission's conservation drive its president, Victor Makras, lavished his Dolores Street apartment building with enough decorative exterior lighting to illuminate up Disneyland.

A block away, Mission Dolores had dutifully dimmed its lights in deference to the "power crisis" proclaimed by Makras and other energy "experts." Perhaps Mr. Makras, now on the Police Commission, knew something we didn't.



Why is this man laughing? Photo by Arthur Hudson.

Electoral Meltdown

A veto-proof anti-white majority. While the new coalition's election was a cause for celebration in progressive circles, the city election process was a scandal after the fact.

An investigation of the November 2000 election by California Secretary of State Bill Jones revealed gross irregularities in the conduct of the election and disturbing discrepancies in the vote tally. A crucial (at the time) slow-growth proposition by the city's progressive coalition (Hall vs. Reagan),

centage point and may still be affected if a proposed recanvass and possible full recount go ahead.

After the election, the results, as in the Gore-Bush Florida fiasco, were already largely determined. Others threaten lawsuit to overthrow the certification. All this may be more than enough of the documented

be found and that which remains safeguarded for months in a waterfront warehouse.

At the same press conference where the Secretary of State denounced the way the November 2000 election was handled, he gave a clean bill of health to the election of November 2001, even though on election night ballots were mysteriously moved from City Hall.

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Auditorium (allegedly because of the fear of an anthrax attack).

A few days after the press conference, ballot box lids were found floating in the Bay, ballots were found stuck in voting machines, in the possession of renegade poll workers and in a South of Market dumpster, all from the November 2001 election. At a public hearing in December, testimony was given that the ballots were left unguarded for several hours and that moving the ballots from City Hall was done at the request of Mayor Brown.

Five supervisors are looking into this mess and probably so are any number of state and federal agencies. Coincidentally, in this election two progressive propositions favoring municipalization of utilities were narrowly defeated, one by less than a single percentage point.

In a single-issue runoff election for City Attorney in December, over 83% of the registered voters stayed home.

Mayor Brown, is preparing to run for state senate and Secretary of State Jones is running for Governor



Three women (?) in American flag birkas added color and an ambiguous message to a September anti-war rally in Dolores Park. Photo by ve miller.

War and Peace

The Bay Area has been a focal point for anti-war activity in the past, so after the numbing horror of the 9/11 attacks wore off anti-war forces began flexing their muscle with protest marches and rallies that organizers claimed drew up to 10,000 people. But as more bombs fell on Afghanistan and more civil liberties were shredded by voracious U.S. Attorney General Ashcroft, the anti-war pro-liberty forces did not burgeon and bellow but seemed to grow smaller and quieter.

By December, activist Tom Avicoli was reporting the peace movement missing in action (in an opinion piece written for the Bay Guardian), and meetings of the Town Hall Committee that had started out over 600 strong in September were

being held at Centro de Pueblo in a room accommodating a third that number.

Perhaps the full impact of the Patriot Act, and other legislation recently passed by Congress restricting civil liberties and increasing federal police powers, will make itself fully felt in 2002 and spark the level of response these drastic revisions of the Constitution call for, but for the time being there is a rather unsettling lack of outrage. Avicoli asks the plaintive question: "What do you wear for martial law?" The answer, of course, is a brown shirt.

On the bright side, the rash of attacks against those of Middle Eastern descent (and those who looked as if they were) have declined significantly, in both San Francisco and California, since a rash of such hate crimes in September and October.



Willievilles sprung up everywhere in 2001. Photo by v e miller

The Forever Crisis

None of our readers will be surprised to learn that the number of homeless people in the City is up. A census conducted jointly by the City and homeless advocacy groups showed an increase of 36%, with an official tally of nearly 7500 (which translates to at least 10,000 in the real world). A study of 27 cities by the U.S. Conference of Mayors showed the number of people seeking emergency shelter increased an average of 13%.

Sweeps in the South of Market area have pushed many of them into the Mission District. Despite their surging numbers, neither treatment on demand nor an adequate, acceptable shelter system is in place. But the main problem seems to be a dysfunctional City government at war with itself over what to do with the millions- the exact figure is a subject of heated debate - which it spends each year to help those living on the streets.

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SAMPLING OF SPRING 2002 CREDIT COURSES

Course Title	CRN#	Days	Times	Location/Room
Advanced Composition	31254	Th	6:30-9:30 p.m.	3351 23rd St.
Comp & Reading (Interm)	32976	T	6:30-9:30 p.m.	3351 23rd St.Digital
Media Skills	34374	F	2-4 p.m.	106 Bartlett
Multimedia Portfolio Dev	35014	M	1-5 p.m.	106 Bartlett 412

SAMPLING OF SPRING 2002 FREE NONCREDIT COURSES

Course Title	CRN#	Days	Times	Location/Room
Building Web Sites	42504	MW	3-5:30 p.m.	106 Bartlett 414
Child Development	43135	S	12-2:45 p.m.	294 Potrero
Citizenship	40088	MW	12:30-3 p.m.	106 Bartlett 312
Citizenship	41455	MTh	12:30-3 p.m.	225 30th St.
Citizenship	41457	TTh	7-9:05 p.m.	106 Bartlett
Computer Overview	41308	MW	4-6:30 p.m.	3750 18th St
Computer Overview	41309	TTh	4-6:30 p.m.	3750 18th St
Computer Overview	41845	MTWTh	12:30-3 p.m.	106 Bartlett 409
Computers (Basic Ed)	43606	TTh	12:30-3 p.m.	106 Bartlett 412
Computers (Basic Ed)	43607	MW	12:30-3 p.m.	106 Bartlett 414
Computers (Intro)	43601	TTh	3-5:30 p.m.	106 Bartlett 409
Computers (Intro)	43606	TTh	3-5:30 p.m.	106 Bartlett 412
Computers (Intro)	43607	MW	12-3 p.m.	106 Bartlett 414
Computers (Older Adults)	40107	TTh	12:30-3 p.m.	106 Bartlett 414
ESL Level1-4 (Beginning)	40519	MTWTh	9:30-12 p.m.	225 30th St.
ESL Level1-4 (Beginning)	42566	MTWTh	6-8:30 p.m.	450 Church
ESL Level 1	40507	MTWTh	6:30-9 p.m.	2929 19th St 18
ESL Level 1	43580	TTh	6-8:30 p.m.	1050 York
ESL Level 1-2 Conversation	43180	MW	8:30-11 a.m.	325 Sanchez
ESL Multilevel 1-4	40517	MTWTh	6:30-9 p.m.	260 Madrid St.
ESL Multilevel 1-4	43002	MTWThF	10-12 p.m.	2929 19th St 18
ESL Multilevel 1-4	43003	MTWThF	8-10 a.m.	2929 19th St 18
ESL Reading 1-2	40456	MTWTh	12-1:15 p.m.	2929 19th
Keyboarding (Typing)	41854	MW	12:30-3 p.m.	106 Bartlett 416
Keyboarding Lab	41417	TTh	12:30-3 p.m.	106 Bartlett 416
Office Technology Lab	41540	MW	12:30-3 p.m.	106 Bartlett 407
Office Technology Lab	42498	MTWTh	3-5:30 p.m.	106 Bartlett 416
Office Technology Lab	41854	MW	12:30-3 p.m.	106 Bartlett 416
Spreadsheet (Begin)	42502	TTh	12:30-3 p.m.	106 Bartlett 407
Windows 98 (Intro)	40201	S	11-1:30 p.m.	106 Bartlett 407
Windows 98 (Intro)	42882	S	11-1:30 p.m.	106 Bartlett 409
Windows 98 (Intro)	42900	S	8:30-11 a.m.	106 Bartlett 407
Word Processing (Begin)	43531	S	8:30-11 a.m.	106 Bartlett 409
Word Processing (Multilevel)	41539	TTh	3-5:30 p.m.	106 Bartlett 407
Word Processing (Multilevel)	43605	MW	3-5:30 p.m.	106 Bartlett 407

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At an August press conference, Mayor Brown blamed the City's homeless problem on the Board of Supervisors (who he characterized as "loudmouths" and "alarmists"), on district attorney Terence Hallinan (who he called a "son of a bitch" that "should have been recalled"), on the general public who in the mayor's view failed to support the enlightened policies of notorious homeless-basher and former supervisor Amos Brown, and lastly on shelter workers who he said have given up on solving the problem.

Since the mayor's office coordinates all the City's homeless programs, the Brown administration's evident contempt

for the very people it should be working with bodes ill for any improvement in the homeless crisis before the end of the mayor's term of office.

On the streets, homeless people appear to have accepted the fact that they will be there for a long time. In alleys and side streets where one or two people once huddled separately, improvised tent cities (Brown Towns, Willieville?) have sprung up, each with a half dozen or more people united for the only real help they're going to get: self help.

Supervisor Newsom has proposed a vast reorganization of the city's homeless efforts that comes just as his campaign for mayor is gearing up.



The Day Laborers felt the economic pinch more than most last year. Photo by Margaret Yamasaki

The Conundrum of the Economy

The great imponderable, both for the neighborhood and the country, is the economy. Locally it is still too early to tell how the neighborhood will fare in the coming year. Some of the upscale restaurants that lived high on the dot-com hog may have to adapt or go under. More stable, neighborhood-serving enterprises such as produce markets, neighborhood-oriented bars and moderately priced eateries may feel a pinch but will most likely survive. Most perilous to the general economic well being of the neighborhood is the downturn in tourism following the events of 9/11.

Many Mission residents employed by hotels and restaurants in the city's tourist areas have been laid off or had their hours drastically reduced. Uncertainty over the future keeps many people from spending as freely as they have in the past.

Construction employment is off dramatically now that the office building boom is over: nine hundred construction jobs were terminated Citywide between August and September 2001.

As in most recessions, those at the bottom end of the economy are hit hardest: the Mission's day laborers have found their already shaky job situation worsening dramatically since 9/11.

ballots in the Bay, and may yet return to the polls in record numbers.

The obnoxious dot-com scum that annoyed us with their SUV's and surliness will have at last left town. Then again, they may remain in town to annoy us with their surliness and shopping carts.

The peace movement may yet storm the battlements, but probably not until we've leveled a few more third-world countries. Attorney General Ashcroft may stop suspending our civil rights, but only after he runs out of them.

The energy crisis may be over, but paying the energy bill might be more of a challenge for those who are out of work.

The homeless and the day laborers are always with us.

2002: It's Gotta Be Better, Doesn't It?

Progressives and unprogressives will continue to square off in electoral contests that have less to do with better government than they have with the internecine rivalries of San Francisco's troll-army of political players. Voters may stay home in droves, repelled by both the choices on the ballot and the possibility their ballot will sleep with the fishes. On the other hand, cock-eyed optimists may reason that if their vote really didn't count, sinister forces wouldn't have bothered to throw their

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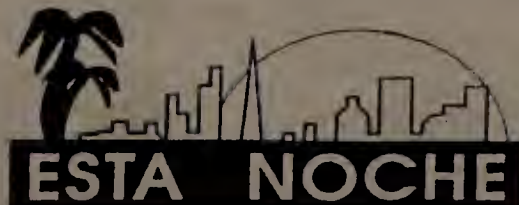
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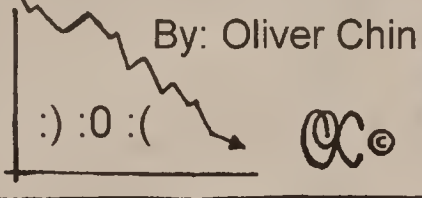
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JOURNEY to the bottom of the e-conomy

By: Oliver Chin



Word of the month: e-lection

Too bad those public power plans failed by a paltry percent.

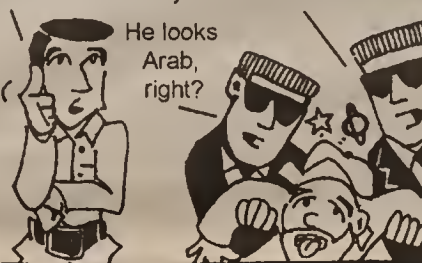
These ballot boxes were bobbing in the bay.



Word of the month: e-rosion

My civil liberties are a small price to pay for our national security.

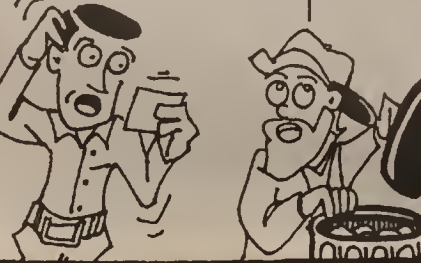
President Ashcroft said take no chances.



Word of the month: e-lection

What?! A pink slip?

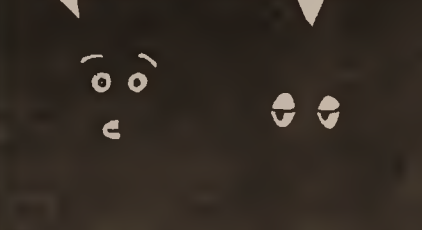
Welcome to the world of welfare.



Word of the month: e-lectricity

Did my rack servers use all the juice?

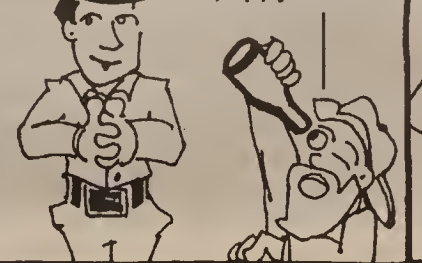
Lights out on Gov. Davis' career.



Word of the month: e-rosion

Thank goodness I still have a job!

So long, free weekly happy hour.



Word of the month: e-lection

Unfortunately for you, I'm taking over your lease.

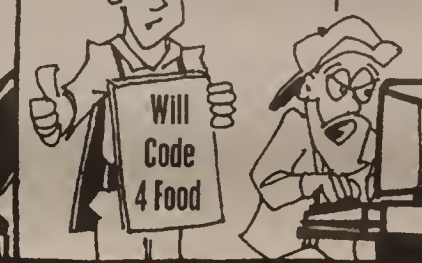
My vocation is your dislocation.



Word of the month: e-lection

When do you think the recession will end?

After I find you a low fare so you can relocate.



Word of the month: e-lection

In this time of war 'n stuff all of us must make sacrifices.

"Love it or leave it" you imperialist dog!



Word of the month: e-lection

Don't worry guy. Ping me when I'm donating time for community service.

The world is being condo-ized!



Word of the month: e-lection

It's time you got a virtual shopping cart!

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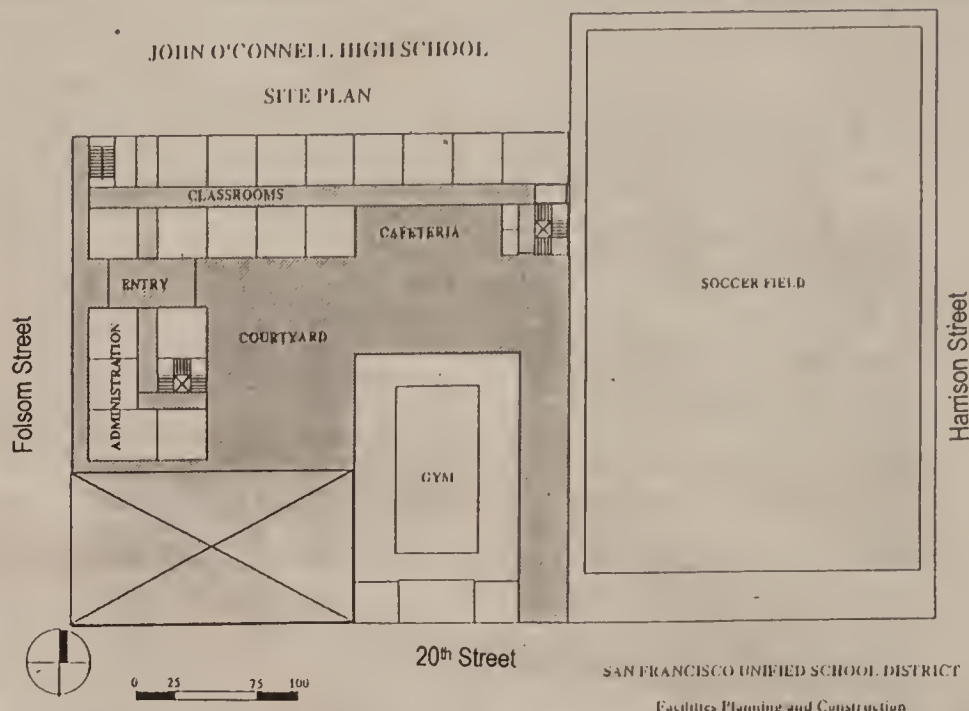
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The promise and the reality. This September 1993 scheme (top), promoted by the SF Unified School District to win passage of a bond issue the following year, clearly shows a soccer field as part of the John O'Connell facility. Five years later, the District published an almost identical plan for a soccer field at O'Connell in the *New Mission News* (November 1998) to counter reports that the soccer field was being scrapped. When the school opened last year, there was only a stark asphalt courtyard where the soccer field was supposed to be, and next to it over 20,000 square feet of fenced-off wasteland (bottom). "Community engagement" officers for Superintendent Arlene Ackerman were baffled. Has the engagement been broken?

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John O'Connell continued from page 1

critical need. Community residents, youth and teachers last month blasted City officials for repeatedly breaking promises to construct and open a new park on Treat Avenue, something the public has requested for more than a decade.

School officials' inability to provide basic details about whether the once-promised O'Connell fields would ever materialize comes on the heels of a wave of bad publicity regarding the District's performance on school construction and maintenance projects; it has been harshly criticized for allegedly mismanaging \$330 million in bond projects and tax money for school construction, repairs and improvements.

School Superintendent Arlene Ackerman, who hired auditors to uncover questionable spending practices by the District's Facility Management Department, says she inherited these problems upon assuming her office. She has also asked the FBI and the City Attorney's Office to investigate the department's finances. Ackerman, in the District's own news release last spring, acknowledged that school construction projects had lacked proper oversight. She was quoted last month as saying that some construction-related documents were missing.

Although unsure about the precise details of the status of the O'Connell fields, Irons questioned if they were ever part of a bond issue. Irons said specifying athletic fields at a school site might have been too specific for a bond measure.

School officials used bond money to rebuild the 50-year-old school, named for a founder of the San Francisco Labor Council, after the original building was damaged in the Loma Prieta earthquake of

1989 and subsequently condemned. \$8.1 million from a 1997 City proposition was used to open O'Connell and a companion facility at Moscone School after the projects went over budget, according to a District report. The projects were supposed to be paid for with money approved by voters in an earlier city bond issue passed in 1994.

The issue of the soccer field has become murky in recent years. In November 1998, when it appeared the plan for the soccer field was being dropped School Board member (now president of the board) Jill Wynns told the *New Mission News* she knew nothing about it. Timothy Tronson, then head of the District's Facilities Department, said at the time he would seek to include the athletic fields in the project again. Subsequently, Superintendent of Education Bill Rojas released plans - that were published in the *New Mission News* in November 1998 - showing the field in place.

Wynns did not return telephone calls by press time. Tronson, no longer employed by the District, is being investigated for possible criminal activity during his tenure of office. Rojas has also left the district and has been accused of misusing construction bond money.

Although the District has released no new information about the O'Connell fields, it did announce a series of public meetings to discuss long-term plans for the use and improvement of its facilities, a topic that will address construction and property management. Meetings in December have already taken place at three sites. Similar meetings will be held at 7 p.m. at Galileo Academy High School on January 9, and at Washington High School at the same hour on January 10.



Logo by:
Norlando Saavedra

A Publication of HOMEY in collaboration with High Schools in the
Mission.

VOLUME 1 NUMBER 1

FALL 2001

FREE

This Issue's Theme:
Multicultural Unity

In These Pages:

A1.....Poems, drawings & quotes

A2.....Reflections on how media affects our communities.

A3.....The relationship between language & culture.

A4.....Resources & announcements.

How Our Struggles
Connect

By: Maryon V.

Oppression, depression, obsession, competition, why we gotta be stressin?

If you don't know yourself, how can you know me?

You have internalized oppression, what they say, you believe.

Political, economic, what do these words mean to you?

have you been stressin so much that its phased you?

Your set, your block, your street, your crew.

If you keep yourself in a set, why do you get angry when they categorize you?

War and starvation isn't too much apart, if you suffer from one long enough it'll play into your heart.

Child abuse, drug abuse, domestic abuse, it's all wrong. Abuse doesn't change anything-it just causes more harm.

No money will make you work hard to get the dough, much money will make you work harder to keep it.

War and starvation isn't too much apart, if you suffer from one long enough it'll play into your heart.

Chemicals, poison, why don't they just dump it everywhere- just letting it stay by the poor isn't fair.

Cars, tims, diamonds, and Nike's- If you're getting it from selling drugs then it's just not right.

We're both down, and we both want up, but if you climb on me, then where is the love?

People experience different types of oppression on a daily basis, but if you bring the world down, then who is going to help you make it?

In the world today it should be all for one and one for all, but if you don't have your own backbone, then all will fall!

LOVE...is there?

RESPECT...in the world is very limited today,
PEOPLE...go through struggles because of this,
RACISM...we thought it stopped, but it still goes on.

By: Nicole Jenkins

Why It Is

By: Byrdie Banderas

Violence is not the key to freedom, justice or peace, though America thinks it is.

Two wrongs don't make a right, my mother always told me- though America feel it is.

Mean people try to worry us and they succeed. They say America's the bad and mean ones and we show them what they say.

They hurt America by damaging two buildings, and we hurt them by bombing thier country.

Two wrongs don't make a right, my mother always told me.

America wonders why there's so many immigrants here, but their the ones that bring them.

They see us as rich and happy, because that's what we display.

But they don't know the truth of the struggles and pain we really go through everyday.

They will never know or find the truth that lies inside, 'till they're here and it's too late for them to survive.

Even though we go through these struggles and people trying to hold us down, we rise & survive!



Graphic by: John Rodriguez

Quotes from Hip Hop artist Tupac Shakur

By: Adan Gomez and Alan King

"They got money for wars, but can't feed the poor"

"We see the old way wasn't working, so it's on us..."

"The power is in the people and the politics we address"

"They say it's the white man I should fear, but it's my own kind doing all the killing here"

"Only God can judge me, nobody else"



"Bobby, don't u think that watching all that T.V. is making young kids violent?"

T.O.V. An Unrealistic Media

By: Pamela Piedad

"Hell no God*#^, now let me watch my show!"

Dazed eyes, ringing ears, antenna brains. The media controls our society and communities. Everyday the stereotypical media claws us insane. Claws our minds to believe unrealistic worlds. Worlds which only corporate riches believe. Believe in wealth and prosperity while all others suffer.

Without the screens, does the truth unveil? Unveil suffering of poverty, hunger and pain. Not a perfect society of sparkling clean streets like on TV. The TV shows only depicts lies, lies, lies. Which only other countries will see with their eyes. While our struggles hid behind the wall of censorship.

If we keep an open mind, then we will see the truth come out. That we can think for ourselves, not be influenced by the corporate signs!



Mainstream vs. Underground

By: Tashiana Jefferson

In the Mademoiselle magazine, there was only fourteen black people and most of the people had straight hair. This is not a problem, but for young African American girls looking at the magazine for hairstyle tips, they might be quick to try these hairstyles instead of ethnic hairstyles. I think if all styles were portrayed then people would be able to incorporate them into their lives.

There are way more important issues that young women need to be worrying about...

In Blu magazine, there were lots of ethnic women, talking about issues that really affect women and get young minds to think. In Mademoiselle, one article stated how one girl was trying to love an ugly man. There are way more important issues that young women need to be worrying about like self-empowerment and loving themselves and other people on the inside. These issues affect people dramatically in terms of mentality; girls will get their priorities mixed up trying to base their lives on Mademoiselle.



Mental & Physical Health

By: Jaret Rieana Buragat

In Mademoiselle it portrays women as beautiful, thin, all made up but in Blu magazine, it shows the real natural woman. I think that young girls who read Mademoiselle are affected mentally and physically because they feel that the ideal woman is what the magazine shows so they try to be like that. The girls lose self esteem and many girls suffer from eating disorders because they want to be thin like the girls in the magazines.

Reality vs. Fake

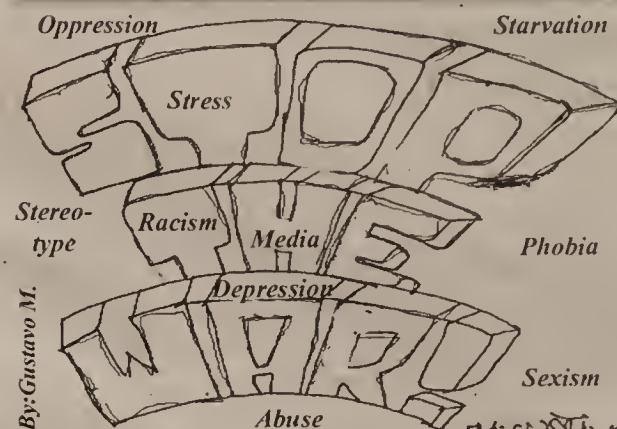
By: Jamilah King

In Blu magazine, you see women who aren't all dolled up-they are woman that you would see on an everyday basis. This magazine also talks about real issues-such as discrimination and oppression.

In the mainstream magazine, the women are portrayed as perfect and sexy. The issues discussed are not really issues that truly affect real women. For example, there was an article about loving your ugly boyfriend but in Blu magazine, there was an article about activism.

I don't believe enough culture is taught in our schools. San Francisco schools are very diverse and I think we should take advantage of that and learn from each other. If schools took the initiative to educate us on each others cultures, I think things in general would improve. There would be less racial clicks, ie. blacks hanging with blacks, latinos hanging with latinos. People would be more open to learning about each other.

-J.Bell



The U.S. is spending billions of dollars for bombs, missiles, military, etc. in Afghanistan and killing innocent Afghanis. In the U.S. there are homeless people dying of starvation, millions of people losing their jobs. My cousins are two of those people. Why can't the U.S. spend the money for the people in its' country instead of spending that money for taking lives out of this world?

...but the money spent for the war is coming from people's taxes...

As an American, I am really upset about the government. They just do what they want and never care about their people, but the money spent for the war is coming from people's taxes. I do not want my money to be spent for killing people in Afghanistan and I think others feel like me too. But what can we do to stop the war? Stop paying taxes? Riot? We can do something if we all united but I don't have the power to unite all people to stop this cruel war between U.S. and Afghanistan. In the past, people gathered and yes they did make a difference. We can stand up for what we truly think is the right things for the government to do. We all live in the U.S. not only the government.. We can all make decisions for our country, not only the government. We can make differences if we all stand up together.

By: Hai Dang

Internalized Oppression

By: DeAngela Barnett

From my knowledge, it seems like the whole 100% of African American people are filled with potential, knowledge, and creative minds but about 75% of those people fail to realize that. Instead of thinking ahead for the future they only think for the time being. Even if they do think for the future, some of them are ignorant towards it and set themselves at low standards. To me, it hurts because our ancestors fought and strived to put us in the positions we are in today. They have given us the chance to rise above all negativity but we choose to act as the politicians define us.

I think T.V. has does have something to with people's outlook on themselves but it's more of a "ghetto" mentality people seem to have. They believe that they have to live by the rules of the street instead of doing the opposite and trying to get out of them. They feel they have to be like everyone else instead of being themselves. They look at the world as just surviving for the time being and not as surviving with the many opportunities open to create a better life for themselves.

The Need For Updated History Books

By: Alyse Hollingsworth

I think that the school books at our school only teach one part of history-the white part of history. When they do mention other cultures, the history books make it look like they are the bad ones or that they don't know enough to be a part of the world. There are some teachers and some schools that do take the time out to teach us kids about African history or Asian history. I think when they do that, kids get along with each other a lot better. If all the history classes taught us kids about different ethnic histories, we as the world could along better.

For example, in one of the workshop days, we talked about how different races had to fight and work hard to survive. I already knew that but by watching the video about the farmworker struggle, I learned more about what Cesar Chavez did for his people and what they had to go through. I think if people knew about all the struggles every race went through, people would appreciate other races more and understand them more. I would like to learn more about the holocaust and about other things people have been through.

These reflections are from students who participated in the workshop entitled, "Reclaiming Our Multicultural History". In this workshop, we explore the contributions that diverse cultures have made to this nation, how we learn about these histories and the lack of multicultural history taught in our country. Discussions included how media stereotypes many cultures and the effect that not knowing about each other's histories has on our communities.

A month of inspiration in Ghana, West Africa

By: Kaira Espinoza, Listen Up! Editor

In July of this year, I was in Ghana, West Africa surrounded by natural beauty, friendly people, and delicious food. I was able to visit this beautiful country for a month thanks to a scholarship; BRIDGES is a non-profit organization that awards young adults who have shown dedication to uplift our struggling communities with a 9 month fellowship in, "Building Responsible International Dialogue through Grassroots Exchanges".

Along with 8 other young adults, I participated in pre and post workshops in which we discussed how globalization impact local communities. These interactive sessions prepared us for our trip to Ghana, making us aware of the culture shock we might experience, as well as the similarities between the struggles that many so-called third world countries face. I say, "so-called" because during

my month in Ghana, I was deeply inspired by how communities live in respectful harmony with the land and animals. Most schools begin the day with drumming and singing and the yards are huge grassy fields. It reinforced my dedication to revitalize schools in the U.S. with more multicultural studies in order to foster respect for the many cultures that make up our world. Schools in Ghana

teach English and French in addition to the local indigenous languages. In the city that I visited, people spoke Ewe. Experiencing Ghana and talking with peoples there also gave me inspiration that we as a world society can work together to replenish Mother Earth instead of continually polluting her. From doing simple things like recycling to courageous things like voicing our concern about how bombs are destroying our source of life.



Wise elders at the Kilikor village of traditional African religion.



Dora Memorial Private School



Kids at Dora Memorial's beautiful & spacious playground.

If you don't know your roots, where you come from and you don't speak your mother language, you live lost from your culture. I feel so connected to my culture because I speak my family's language and I lived in my country, Vietnam, for a long time before I came here. My soul was absorbed in my culture, it taught me how to care for my family and others. It was a lot different living in Vietnam from living in U.S. Teenagers are so shy that they don't speak loud on the bus or in class. And everytime they see their leaders, they have to stand up to greet them.

I think not knowing your culture is like something's missing in your body. And if you don't know your culture, your language, then you don't know who you really are and you don't feel complete. In my culture, discipline is the first thing that the parents teach their children, as soon as they can walk.

By: Trung Nguyen

"Speaking the language of your culture probably makes you feel more connected. I know that not knowing it makes you feel separated because I don't know my culture's language and I feel lost when people try to speak it to me".

-Tommy Ruiz

By: AJ Allen Caylao

I think the first question talks about our generation to our parents and grandparents. We are lost from our culture because we think different, like in their way we talk and everything. I'm able to connect more with my parents because I'm able to talk to them in two languages so it makes it easier.

See, here in America we have so much and we are spoiled sometimes. Sometimes we don't really care we have when people in other places of the world don't even have shelter, food, or clothes. But some people do care about the homeless because I was watching the news on the week of Thanksgiving and there was a group of people feeding the homeless. This group went to the homeless, they didn't make the homeless come to them. A lot of people want the homeless to have homes and live a regular life, so there are people who care for others.

To me, this quote is true in some ways because in some places they don't let you speak your language because they are racist or just don't want to learn about other cultures. For example, in one of my classes, a teacher told me to stop speaking Spanish and I said, "Why?" and she said, "Because we are in America" and I said, "So". She kept quiet and then said, "If you speak Spanish I'll give you detention". To me that is racist. Maybe she is trapped inside and has the pain of her ancestors and does not want to go through what they went through so she oppresses others.

I like my culture and my heritage. I am a Spanish speaking Mexican and

By: Jorge Olascoaga

I think she says that not being able to speak the language of your ancestors means that you're lost from your culture because you can't connect in the same sense. You're not really in touch with yourself. Sometimes I feel the same way. It makes you feel like you're a little lost in finding yourself.

When I reflect on my family and life, it makes me realize that I need to connect with my culture more and that I need to learn Tagalog. I recently went to the Philippines and I kinda felt lost because I don't speak Tagalog that well. I think I'm pretty well connected to my heritage but that is the only thing preventing me from being truly connected.

Speaking the language of your family and your heritage is connected to how you feel about your culture, because if you don't connect to it, you can't really relate to your ancestors and their struggles. It is hard to connect if you don't know anything about yourself or your culture.

By: Andrea Banas

These reflections are responses from reading the following quote by Chicana writer Sandra Cisneros, "The language of our antepasados, those who came before us, connects us to our center, to who we are, and directs us to our life work. Some of us have been lost, cut off from the essential wisdom and power. Sometimes, our parents or grandparents were so harmed by a society that treated them ill for speaking their native language that they thought they could save us from that hate by teaching us to speak only English. Those of us, then, like captives, lost from our culture, ungrounded, forever wandering like ghosts with a thorn in the heart..."

Born Multicultural

By: John Asis

Me and my family...I'm a mix of cultures: half Filipino and the other half divided between Puerto Rico, Mexican and Italian. My family is very Americanized. Almost everything about our family is. We have no real culture except for being American. Something I'd like to know is how all these cultures came together to make me. How almost completely different cultures come together and the struggles to keep this family.

I've lived in America my whole life. This is the only life I know. I have never even been out of this country. The farthest I've been from California was Florida. I have been to Hawaii but not out of America. The only language we speak is English. The only side of the family we really know is my mom's. That's the Italian part but it doesn't seem like their Italian. We're just American. My mom's mom and dad divorced so we don't see my mom's dad's side much.

I have a step dad, so I don't know much about my dad's side. Just a little. That's my Filipino side. Sometimes I wish I knew more about my culture. Sometimes when I'm with a whole bunch of one culture (that I'm mixed with) I feel odd or different. That's why I like having a variety of friends. I don't just stick to my culture of friends because I don't know what my culture is.

Language is an important aspect of my culture. The language my family speaks is a traditional home dialect. Living in America and having this environment to cope with, I have lost a sense of my culture. My parents encouraged me to speak Chinese, but since I went to a public school, I focused more on English to be accepted into this society not even realizing I was losing my own.

I think because I don't speak Chinese, there is a gap between my parents and I. I don't understand my parents since they can not speak English very well. If they expressed themselves in Chinese, I think there wouldn't be so many misunderstandings, but since I can't understand Chinese, I have drifted apart from them.

Even during Chinese New Year when I visit my grandmother I would like to get to know her because if I knew more about her I would know more about my cultural beginnings. But my grandmother only speaks and understands Chinese, which is my loss. It's difficult to live in this society because I think so many people choose to fit in rather than learn to accept themselves.

By: Christine Wong

"Knowing my language (Spanish) makes me feel close to my family because I get to speak with them and understand them".

-Angel Roldan

By: Jaret Rieana Bumagat

My parents were born in the Philippines but came to the U.S. when they were 8 and 7, so although they know how to speak the Filipino language as they grew older, their Filipino culture started to fade. They became Americanized and couldn't speak the language anymore. They could only understand bits and pieces of it. Since my parents couldn't speak the language I wasn't taught how to speak it. When I was younger, I never really realized the importance of my Filipino culture and I'm a little sad that my parents were not able to teach it to me.

In some ways I feel a little lost from my culture because when I went to visit the Philippines for the first time I was surprised of how things were over there. I never knew about the poverty there. I saw so many young children in the streets with no shoes and I was so sad! I am very fortunate to live in the U.S.

Student Suggestions on how to prevent terrorism:

By being more empathetic we can begin to understand what each other is going through. We will learn that by oppressing other people it only emotionally scars them for life and teaches them that oppression is okay. This begins a cycle that is hard to break.
-Andrea Banas

We can talk about our point of view of all these problems, maybe we can change ourselves.
-Angel Roudan

I think the thing that youth could do to help create a better world is to make their community and neighborhood a better place to live.
-AJ Allen Caylao

Hopefully we will be over September 11. We will not forget it but we can try to get over it. Help one another. Stop fighting other countries because you're just killing more people and hurting more families.
-Deanna G.

We as young people can prevent further terrorism by teaching each other about our different cultures, customs, and lifestyles. Since we are the future, it would be best for us to educate each other now so we can begin passing good values—such as peace, respect, and tolerance—down to our children.
-Jamilah King

Our youth has to realize their potential power and to believe they can make a better world.
-Christine Wong

Youth can prevent further terrorism by changing the way we treat each other. If we don't treat each other in negative ways, then people won't act in negative ways. Therefore no terrorism will occur.
-Tommy Ruiz

Talk about what's going on and try to make people understand how much we need each other.
-Antoinette Talavero



Website resources against racism & war:

No War Collective:

www.nocollective.com

Independent Media Center:

www.indymedia.org

Human Rights Watch:

www.hrw.org

Arab-American Anti-Discrimination Committee SF:

www.adcsf.org

Just Cause Law Collective:

www.lawcollective.org

National Lawyer's Guild Bay Area legal hotline for police/government harassment and repression:

www.nlg.org

415.285.1055

Street opinion

By: Carlo, Jasmine, Nathan

1) Are you for the war?

Lisa: she said yes. She said if we don't then every other country will bomb us.

2) Are you afraid to open your mail because of anthrax?

A student's mom: she said no, "if I get it and die it's God's will".

3) Do you feel safe in your neighborhood?

Lamu: He said no. He said the and his family runs West Point. He's the one scaring other people.

4) Do you feel the president is doing a good leader?

Richard: He said he doesn't know. He said he doesn't watch TV or read the newspaper.

5) What radio stations have affect on you?

Bernadette: She said that it really doesn't. All she does is listen to it.

After September 11th, 2001 what is one wish you have for the year 2002?

World peace and unity on the streets.

- Angel Roldan

I wish for more unity among all the cultures.

-Tashiana Jefferson

World peace.

-Diego Macias

One wish I have for 2002 is all people on this planet live in peace. Traveling on airplane without worrying that the plane will be hijacked and crashed into a building. Afghans not living worrying that bombs will drop on their houses. Live where they are living and not moving to another country. Palestinians live in peace with Israelis. Children in Africa, Asia, South America, and other countries to stop starving.

- Hai Dang

A main goal of Listen Up! workshops are to raise awareness on how social, economic, and political issues affect our health. Only by understanding this can we begin to heal ourselves and find effective ways of coping with life's challenges while creating healthier communities. One student's reflection after reading an article about Yoga in one of the workshop sessions:

"I didn't know Yoga was so spiritual and healing. I also didn't know it built stamina. I think this is a very healing and spiritual activity. I might look into taking some Yoga classes."

- J. Bell

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What's new @ Listen Up!

This Fall issue of *LISTEN UP!* marks the official transition of *Listen Up!* as a project of HOMEY's Education & Media program.

HOMY is a non-profit organization dedicated to empowering young people. We work with the most disenfranchised youth, offering them self-empowering programs with a holistic approach. Through our four components: Education & Media, Economic Development, Coalition Building, and Street Outreach, youth gain life skills and develop mentally, spiritually and culturally. By addressing the root causes of youth alienation, we prevent violence and enable youth to sustain a culture of peace!

To submit something, to find out more about this publication or Homies Organizing the Mission & Empowering Youth contact:
Kaira Espinoza
Education & Media Coordinator
(415) 863.1100

Editorial and policy decisions are made by the staff of the Education & Media Program of Homies Organizing the Mission & Empowering Youth (HOMEY). *Listen Up!* name created by Yousanie Yarnway, former ISA student. *Listen Up!* logo design by Norlando Saavedra, ISA student. 20,000 copies published twice a year. This issue has been made possible by the California Wellness Foundation and HOMEY's Educational Advisory Council. The views expressed in *Listen Up!* are not necessarily those of HOMEY nor all members of ISA. Thank you to the *New Mission News* for support of this publication. *Listen Up!* is printed at Howard Quinn, a union shop.

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A lot of history in a small place

Planning department takes a look at the North Mission

by Jill Winkelstein

If you live in the area bounded by the streets of Mission, Dolores, Capp and Natoma, you may notice men and women walking around with clipboards and digital cameras, taking notes as they take photos of neighborhood buildings. Who are they, extremely detail-oriented tourists? No, they're actually surveyors from the City's Planning Department, who will be conducting a survey of nearly 420 residential and commercial spaces here in the Mission in order to determine their historical significance.

How does the City decide if a building has any "historical significance" in the first place? Well, they use the methodology put forth by the National Register Criterion, which lists four ways to tell if a building is historic. The first criterion is whether or not an important person lived in or was associated with the building.

The second is what important events took place in the building (for example, the treaty that created the United Nations was signed in the War Memorial Building). The third is the architecture (think of City Hall, or the old Victorians in Alamo Square). Last is the structure or site's potential to yield information (for example, there are shipwrecks that lie under city streets and buildings by the waterfront).

Why is the City doing this survey work? The official answer is "to expand and update the Historic Resources Inventory - an inventory of historically and architecturally significant buildings, structures, districts, sites or objects in the City and County of San Francisco." That sounds pretty academic, but to put it another way, the Mission has an amazing number of architectural and historical gems, and we want to learn as much about them as we can.

The survey work that's being done is in cooperation with the State of California, and all information gathered by the City's Planning Department will be turned over to the state and become part of the state historic inventory.

If you're wondering how this process is going to affect neighborhood residents, the answer is probably very little, at least for the moment. Here's how the survey work happens: the first step is for surveyors to go out into the field, take pictures and write brief descriptions of the buildings in the survey area. At the same time, they review the history of the area. They try to determine the important themes in the neighborhood, and what influences

led to its development. Then they take the information they've gathered and try to boil it down and fit it into the National Register Criteria, described above.

To give you an idea of the kind of information that the survey will uncover (and update - the last survey work done in this area was in the 1970s), here are a few interesting tidbits of history about buildings in the Mission:

•The Mission Dolores is a structure that dates back to 1782, when Father Palou laid the cornerstone of the building. It was built beside a lake (which, obviously, no longer exists). The building itself was constructed completely by local Indians. The adobe bricks used for the walls were probably made from mud excavated from a swamp on nearby 15th Street. If those walls could talk ... there's a lot of history in that building that you can't tell by simply looking at its exterior!

•Other buildings in the area, like Valencia Gardens at 340 Valencia Street, have an interesting architectural history that you might not guess from just passing by. Noted architects Harry A. Thompson Jr. and William W. Wurster designed these buildings. The apartments were completed in 1942 and were San Francisco's first public low-rent housing project. The landscape architect of the project, Thomas D. Church, used sculptures by Benjamin Bufano to decorate the courtyards between the buildings.

•It's not just the old buildings that have historical significance, either. Did you know that San Francisco architects Hertzka and Knowles designed the BART station at 16th and Mission? The huge cast-concrete sculptures lining the entrance walls were designed and executed by William Mitchell of London, and the murals of brown, gold and rust tiles were created by San Francisco artist Janet Bennett.

Do you have any information, interesting historical stories, or photographs of buildings in the neighborhood? Perhaps you came across something interesting while you were cleaning out your attic? If you have, the Planning Department can use this information as it compiles historical data about the area. You can contact N. Moses Corrette at the Planning Department by calling 558-6409 or by e-mailing him at .



The former National Guard Armory at 1800 Mission was built between 1909 and 1912 in what is called "Clinker Brick Brutale style. A number of armories were being built in working class communities across the country at the time just in case labor unrest turned into serious revolt. Since being abandoned by the Guard more than two decades ago various projects ranging from a Belgium theme park to a dot-com palace have been proposed for its use. The steep renovation cost, possibly as high as \$50 million, has put a damper on all plans so far.



St. Mathew's Lutheran church at 3281 16th Street was founded in 1895 and originally located on 11th Street between Market and Mission. It was destroyed in the 1906 fire and earthquake and rebuilt at its current site in 1907. The gothic style was based on a church in Germany visited by the pastor, Albert Gercke. Linking the present to the past when the Mission's had a prominent German community are St. Mathew's bilingual (English/German) services.

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MISSION DISTRICT (CALENDAR



1 TUESDAY

The first thing to do this year is the Ninth – Urs Leonhardt conducts the Community Music Center Orchestra in the 10th Annual New Year's Concert of Beethoven's Ninth Symphony (with chorale). Mission Dolores Basilica, 16th & Dolores, 4 pm. \$15. 647-6015

2 WEDNESDAY

Rug rat cinema – Kids ages 3-5 will enjoy this video program that includes *The Three Little Pigs*, *Musical Max*, *Tuesday* and *Banjo Frogs*. Mission Branch Library, 300 Bartlett, 10:15 am and 11:00 am, free. 695-5090

3 THURSDAY

Shakin' that thing - Round World Music presents MAZACOTE plus Salsa dance lessons (9 to 10 pm) (Salsa LIVE) 10 pm. Elbo Room, 647 Valencia, \$6. 552-7788

4 FRIDAY

Kids, don't try this at home - Lavay Smith and Her Red Hot Skillet Lickers (vintage Jazz & Blues-LIVE) Café Du Nord, 2170 Market, 10 pm, \$8. 861-5016

5 SATURDAY

Walkin' the walk and talkin' the talk – Watch a brief slide show on mural art then take a six-block walking tour of over 70 murals. Precita Eyes Mural Arts and Visitors Center, 2981 24th Street, 1:30 pm, \$2-12, every Saturday and Sunday. Every Saturday another tour (10 blocks/60 murals) leaves from Café Venice at the 24th Street BART Plaza. 285-2287 www.precitaeyes.org

6 SUNDAY

More walk walkin' and talk talkin' – This 10 block tour highlights the 50 murals of the Precita Park area. Precita Eyes Mural Arts and Visitors Center, 2981 24th Street, 11 am, \$2-12. 285-2287 www.precitaeyes.org

7 MONDAY

The Hungry M - Get Me Mondays / Happy Hour All Night Long presents Starvin' Like Marvin (Groove Funk - Live Music) Elbo Room 647 Valencia, 9 pm, \$5.5 527788

9 WEDNESDAY

Deadman no longer walking – Theodore Hamm discusses his book, *Rebel and A*

Cause, an examination of capital punishment and the infamous Caryl Chessman case. Modern Times Books, 888 Valencia, 7:30 pm, free. 282-9246

10 THURSDAY

Body language – Nao Bustamante uses her body to drive the narrative of her sexually-themed performance piece *Say No More*. New Langton Arts, 1246 Folsom Street, 8:30 pm, \$8. Also tomorrow at 8 pm. 626-5416

11 FRIDAY

Doubled up - Two art receptions, one for the "The Disability Mural," a colorful tile mosaic which is the first public art work to focus on the lives of those living with disabilities, and another for "Regeneration: HIV Artist Hope and Healing." Mission Cultural Center, 2868 Mission Street, 7 pm, \$3. 821-1155

12 SATURDAY

Joy ride – Michael Perry reads from his new book *Daniel's Ride*, a 32-page, vibrantly illustrated libro for kids ages six and up. Adults will find the book's Spanish slang, explained in the glossary, instructive. Modern Times Books, 888 Valencia, 7:30 pm, free. 282-9246

Cool cats do the pony - Ring in the Year of the Horse with Chinese lion dancers as they celebrate the Lunar New Year. Bernal Heights Branch Library, 500 Cortland, 5 pm, free. 695-5160

13 SUNDAY

Healthy Kids' Day - Take this opportunity to sign your kids up for *Healthy Kids*, a new low-cost (\$4/Month) medical, dental and vision program for children and

teens regardless of immigration status. Professionals will help you fill out the application at a celebration that includes free food, music and health check-ups. Mission Dolores Church, 3321 16th Street, 10 am – 3 pm, free. 431-4639

15 TUESDAY

Buffalo mouth organ clinic – Noted harmonicaist and member of the Steve Miller Band Norton Buffalo gives a one-day workshop on harmonica playing as part of the Musician's Union Musician's Workshop series. 116 Ninth Street, 8 pm, \$10 (free for members). 575-0777 or go to www.afm6.org.

The light brigade – The SF Bicycle Coalition will be giving away and installing free bike lights at the corner of 18th and Valencia between 5:30 and 7 pm as part of the "Get a Light" safety campaign. 431-BIKE x4

16 WEDNESDAY

Read me 9/11 – *Taliban: Militancy, Islam, Oil and Fundamentalism in Central Asia* is the first book chosen in this book-a-month community-led discussion group. Future books will be selected by the group. To participate, e-mail eccome@concentric.net. Modern Times Books, 888 Valencia, 7:30 pm. 282-9246

17 THURSDAY

Devil's food shake – It's been three years since the earth shook for the first performance of the fourteen-member precision dance and retro go-go troupe known as the Devil-Ettes. The wild gals celebrate their anniversary with two live and lively shows and a surprise go-go flick at the Roxie Cinema, 3117 16th Street, 7:30 & 9:45, \$7. 863-1087

18 FRIDAY

Custer's latest stand – Local phenomenon Beth Custer (*Doña Luz 30 Besos*) performs with Elaine Buckholtz and *Corner Tour*. Noe Valley Ministry, 1021 Sanchez, \$12/14. 822-3120

Wine, cheese and stuffed fish – Reception for *Ultra-Marine*, an art installation by Lauren Davies based on photos from a fish taxidermy manual. The LAB, 2948 16th Street, 6-9 pm, free. Show runs Wed.-Sat. 1-6 through 2/16. 864-8855

19 SATURDAY

A classy threesome – Piano, flute and percussion renderings of the works of Bach, Lieberman and Harrison. Community Music Center, 544 Capp Street, 8 pm, \$10/\$5. 647-6015

A lion's share of fun – Chinese lion dancers do some fancy hoofing to bring in the Year of the Horse. Mission Branch Library, 300 Bartlett Street, 4 pm, free. 695-5090

20 SUNDAY

Mi Groucho es tu Groucho – Tina



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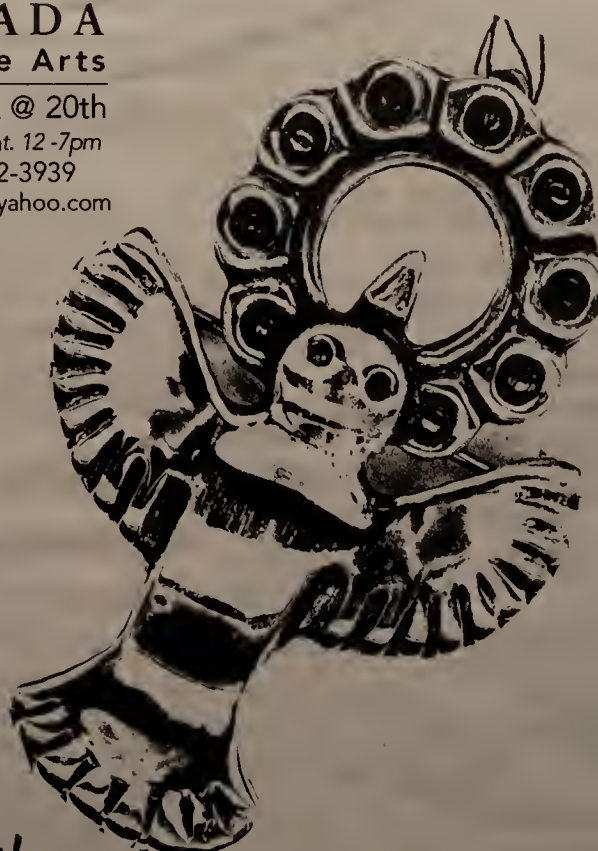
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D'Elia's one-woman performance piece, *Groucho; A Day in the D'Elia Sou*, revolves around a nice Latina lesbian who wakes up one morning to find herself transformed into Groucho Marx. Hilarity, according to the reviewers, ensues. (Plays again on 1/26.) On the same bill: *Date Me*: Eleanor Scott's one-woman show about the singles scene, Ernest Shackleton, a cynical dog and other stuff. Part of the *Women WOW the World* series at Venue 9, 252 Ninth Street, 8 pm, \$15. 289-2000, www.venue9.com

21 MONDAY

King for a day – Youth Speaks hosts the fifth annual *Bringing in the Noise*, an evening of free expression featuring the best in Bay Area teen poets, dancers and djs performing in honor of Martin Luther King Jr. Yerba Buena Center for the Arts (Forum), 701 Mission Street, 7 pm, \$8 general, \$2 under 20 & over 65. 978-2787

23 WEDNESDAY

Mos(es)aic – The Jewish Film Festival presents several short experimental films by German director Deborah Phillips, including the 45-minute *Mosaic* which draws on both Jewish and Islamic visual tradition. Yerba Buena Center for the Arts, 701 Mission Street, 8 pm, \$6. 978-2787

24 THURSDAY

Fairy tales of the city – Get a little peace and quiet when you bring in the pre-schoolers for storytime at the Bernal Heights Branch Library, 500 Cortland, 10:30 am & 3 pm, free.

25 FRIDAY

The Daly Planet – *How to Be a Secret Agent Girl as Seen on Television and in Movies* has five gorgeous babes strutting their stuff in performance pieces written by Cathleen Daly, whose work has been described as “a quirky, surreal exploration of female archetypes.” On the same bill: *Date Me*: Eleanor Scott's one-woman show about the singles scene, Ernest Shackleton, a cynical dog and other stuff. Part of the *Women WOW the World* series at Venue 9, 252 9th Street, 8 pm, \$15. 289-2000, www.venue9.com

Club CMC – The Community Music Center inaugurates the first in a series of nine Saturday night concerts featuring faculty members and their professional performing groups. Tonight, Latin Music by Pepe Jacobo and friends. 544 Capp Street, 8:30 pm. 647-6015

The horror that came to 3rd Street – see 1/26

26 SATURDAY

The horror that came to 3rd Street – *Charm*, a surreal horror film with a message or two, was shot in Super 8 on a \$3000 budget at Mission locations with local folks Sarah Reed and Sadie Shaw and features sound tracks by local bands such as Aislers Set and Deerhoof. Werepad, 2430 3rd Street, 9:30 pm.

27 SUNDAY

B'day for Mo and Shu – The Ina Chalis Opera Ensemble salutes works of Mozart and Schubert in honor of their birthdays. Community Music Center, 544 Capp Street, 4 pm, \$10/\$5. 647-6015

29 TUESDAY

Anti-jingo lingo - Writers at this book party for anti-militarism publisher Akashik Books include Joel Schalit, author of *Jerusalem Calling*, Daniel Buckman, author of *Water in Darkness*, a

novel about Vietnam, and Gerry Nicosia, author of *Home to War: A History of the Vietnam Veterans' Movement*. Modern Times Books, 888 Valencia, 7:30, free. 282-9246

30 WEDNESDAY

Who you callin' yellow? – Harvard professor Frank Wu discusses his book *Yellow*, which examines civil rights, immigration and diversity in a way that goes beyond the usual black/white dynamic and considers the experiences and perspectives of Asian Americans. Modern Times Books, 888 Valencia, 7:30, free. 282-9246

31 THURSDAY

Slam, bang, free choice, ma'am – SLAM! for Choice is a poetry feast about sex, abortion, politics, feminism and your choices, hosted by the California Abortion and Reproductive Rights Action League. The Women's Building, 3543 18th Street, 7:30 pm, \$5-17 sliding scale. Under-25 age poets wanting to perform should go to the CARAL website at www.caral.org

ONGOING THEATER, ARTS AND DANCE

CaveWomen 2002 - Two years in the making, Krissy Kefer's site-specific dance performance work is based on the ritual practices of the shape-shifting and

supernaturally endowed Yogini women of 10th Century Tibet. The work includes elements of dance, theater, WU-SHU martial arts, Taiko drumming and text. Dance Mission, 3316 24th Street @ Mission, previews Friday – Sunday 1/11-18, then Thursday – Sunday 1/31-2/2, Thursday – Saturday at 8 pm & Sunday at 6 pm, \$15-17 adv., \$20 door. 273-4633

Don't Make Me Look Too Psychotic – Mission resident Bruce Patchman wrote, produced, directed and stars in this one-man play about the woman that done him wrong and how she done it. The show ran for 58 weeks to sold-out houses and rave reviews before Patchman took a break. He's back. Brannan Place Theater, 50A Brannan Place, January 17 –March 23, Thursday-Saturday, 8 pm, \$15-18. 826-1709, TooPsychotic.com

Design for Living – Noel Coward's 1932 play about a frolicsome threesome is given an update by director John Fisher. Theatre Rhinoceros, 2926 16th Street, 1/17 –2/6 Wed.-Sat. 8 pm, Sundays 7 pm, Sunday matinees 1/17, 2/3 &10 at 3 pm, \$15-22. 861-5079

The Lights – Howard Korder's 1994 comedy follows 24 hours in the lives of three young urbanites and features a jazz score by Marcus Shelby performed by a 15-piece orchestra, and choreography by Reginald Ray-Savage, director of Savage

Jazz Dance Company. ODC Theater, 3153 17th Street, 1/10-26 Thursday-Saturday, 8 pm, \$16-20. 863-6606

The Return of Abel Ferrara – Horror, vampirism, surrealism and ultra-violence

Continued on page 16



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5. MISSION BELL (MEXICAN) <i>Ground Beef, Onion, Fresh Tomatoes, Black Olives, Jalapenos</i>	13.45	16.75	18.65
6. PACIFIC HEIGHTS (ALL MEAT) <i>Ham, Beef, Pepperoni, Canadian Bacon, Sausage, Salami</i>	13.50	16.85	19.95
7. SAN FRANCISCO <i>Artichoke Hearts, Fresh Tomatoes, Garlic, Sausage</i>	10.85	13.45	17.10
8. HAWAIIAN SPECIAL <i>Canadian Bacon, Pineapple</i>	9.95	12.90	14.10
9. ATHENS BY NIGHT (GREEK) <i>Spinach, Feta Cheese, Black Olives, Pesto, Basil</i>	12.10	14.75	17.10
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characterize these six films by maverick director Abel Ferrara. Shown over three nights. *The Addiction* and *Driller Killer* 1/11 & 12, *Black Out* (theatrical premiere) and *Ms. 45* 1/13 & 14, *New Rose Hotel* and *The Funeral* 1/15 & 16. The director himself will show up at some point. Roxie Cinema, 3117 16th Street, \$7. 863-1087 or www.roxie.com.

WEEKLY MONDAYS

Youth from 10-13 years can learn a variety of media, paper mache, sculpture, print-making, batik, puppet, mask, and jewelry-making skills at a workshop from 3:30-5:30 pm. **Precita Eyes Mural Arts**, 2981 24th St., \$8 per session or \$50 for ten-class membership. 285-2287.

Qigong Classes with Lawrence Wong, a practitioner of healing and martial arts since 1964. Quan Yin Healing Arts Center, 455 Valencia, 6:30 pm, \$40/month/sliding scale. 861-4964

TUESDAYS

Are you smarter than Cliff Claven? Try the **Pub Quiz** hosted by Angie. Fun and prizes. Dylan's, 2301 Folsom @ 19th, 8:30. 641-1416.

Taichi: Taiyi Swimming Dragon Chuan Form taught by Liping Zhu, student of Taoist Master Yu Anren and a gold medalist in the 1996 International Martial Arts Tournament. Quan Yin Healing Arts

Center, 455 Valencia, 6:30 pm, \$40/month/sliding scale. 861-4964

Samba for Activists, taught by Akinyele Sadiq, is designed to bring more energy, culture and joy to demonstrations, meetings and presentations. CELLspace, 2050 Bryant Street, 4 pm, \$5. 648-7562

WEDNESDAYS

Indulge your chess addiction with the all-levels **Chess Club** at 4 pm, or practice your Scrabble skills at **Scrabble Nights** at 7 pm, all ability levels welcome. Bernal Heights Branch Library, 500 Cortland Avenue, 7 pm, free. 695-5160.

Practice your Spanish in an all-levels **Spanish Conversation Group** OR, at the same time and place, join other word warriors for **Scrabble Night**. Bernal Heights Branch Library, 500 Cortland Ave., 7 pm, free. 695-5160.

The International Socialist Organization holds weekly, open meetings at the SF Women's Building, 3543 18th Street, 7-9 pm. 336-5034.

SF Bicycle Coalition Volunteer Night - 5-9 pm, in SFBC office, 1095 Market St., Suite 208 (@ 7th). Every Wednesday come to the weekly SFBC Volunteer night to do the things that make our office run, munch on pizza & snacks and enjoy the fine company of other

cyclists. We can use your help! For more info contact Michael at 431-BiKEx1 or www.calfce@sfbike.org

THURSDAYS

Treat kids ages 3-5 to **Preschool Storytime** at the Mission Branch Library, 300 Bartlett Street, at 10:30 pm. 695-5090

Sister Rise Up! - Spoken word, performance, dj, food, music and dancing are all part of this weekly celebration of the voices of women of color (especially those of the Arab and West African Diaspora). All proceeds benefit **Arab Women's Solidarity Association and INCITE: Women of Color Against Violence**. El Rio, 3158 Mission Street, 9 pm, \$5.

Qi Gong classes taught by Liping Zhu, student of Taoist Master Yu Anren and a gold medalist in the 1996 International Martial Arts Tournament. Quan Yin Healing Arts Center, 455 Valencia, 6:30 pm, \$40/month/sliding scale. 861-4964

FRIDAYS

Gamesters, this is your night. Everything from Scrabble to Cribbage can be played with the regulars, irregulars and newbies at SF Games in their new location at Mission Grounds Café, 3170 16th Street, 7 pm, free. 820-3200 Ext.105.

Learn to ballroom dance at beginning

Ballroom Dance Lessons, followed by a **Ballroom Dance Party**. Dance contests held the last Friday of every month. genius and the just plain wacky are all part and parcel of the short and feature length films screened at the legendary **Other Cinema**. Artist Television Access, 992 Valencia, 8:30 pm, \$5. 824-3890.

SUNDAYS

Terry ("The Lesbian Woody Allen") Baum and Dr. Michael ("The Resident Expert") Goldhaber peruse the news of the day for insight and guffaws with help from the audience in **Operation Infinite News**. Café Du Nord, 2170 Market, 6 pm, \$5. Runs until most of the world's problems have been solved.

Metronome Ballroom, 1830 17th St., lessons 7:30 pm, dance party 9 pm, \$15 for both, \$9 for the party only. 252-9000

SATURDAYS

Storytime en Español for the whole family. Afterwards take part in a short craft activity. Mission Branch Library, 300 Bartlett St., 12 noon, free. 695-5090

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A FEW WORDS FROM



SUPERVISOR TOM AMMIANO

Sister City: Santa Tecla El Salvador

Did you know, San Francisco has established fifteen Sister City relationships with countries all around the world? The very first Sister City relationship was with Osaka, Japan, established in 1957. With the rapid internationalization of the world and the need for cultural and academic exchange, other relationships were formed.

Other Sister City relationships include Sydney, Australia; Haifa, Israel; Manila, Philippines; Ho Chi Minh, Vietnam and Shanghai, Peoples Republic of China, just to name a few. The only Sister City relationships representing South and Central America are Caracas, Venezuela and Esteli, Nicaragua respectively. Recently, I introduced a Resolution officially recognizing the City of Santa Tecla, Department of La Libertad, and El Salvador, as San Francisco's newest Sister City.

The City and County of San Francisco and the Salvadoran community are linked by the thousands of Salvadorans who have adopted San Francisco as their home. Salvadorans residing in San Francisco have enriched the community by providing many services to the less fortunate of San Francisco. For example, Juan Ramone Cardona provides service to those most in need, including legal advice to gain citizenship and a dental clinic at the Central

American Resource Center.

Recently, Oscar Samuel Ortiz Ascencio, the esteemed Mayor of the City of Santa Tecla, El Salvador, visited San Francisco bringing news from the people of Santa Tecla, who request support and solidarity in their efforts to rebuild their city which was recently devastated by earthquakes, and wish to know lessons learned from our past earthquakes.

They also hope to work towards cultural, economic, and scientific exchanges to enrich both cities. These exchanges will include business-to-business relationships, and people-to-people relationships involving scientists, health workers, students and teachers.

The resolution, which has since been signed by the Mayor, grants the request to promote international understanding, cooperation and friendship [and] recognizing the dedication and commitment of the people of Santa Tecla to liberty, democracy, economic stability, and a peaceful and just future.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank the Sister City Committee, chaired by Mr. Walter Huget and Rogelio Kenny Marengo, for their commitment in making this relationship possible. Also, I am set to take a trip to Santa Tecla, El Salvador to promote this good news.

If you are interested and want to get involved with any Sister City activities, please call my office at (415) 554 5144.

Youth Recognition Day



Photo by Gary Stenger

a 19-year-old Mission High graduate. Last spring when Marengo's family and two other families were threatened with deportation, they were able to stay in the United States. Marengo is now working with Supervisor Tom Ammiano to help other families in similar situations.

Marengo has since gone to work. Marengo is now working with Supervisor Tom Ammiano to help other families in similar situations.

Salvador in early January. He is a highly displaced person to roving diplomat in less than year - congratulations Roger!

December 3, 2001 was the first annual Youth Recognition Day, co-sponsored by The San Francisco Board of Supervisors and the Youth Commission. Explaining the motivation for the event, Youth Commission president Anthony R. ... said, "People often focus on the negative impact youth make to society rather than the positive contributions, causing outstanding individuals to take a back seat."

Each supervisor selected an outstanding youth from his or her district to be honored. Supervisor Tom Ammiano selected Rogelio (Roger) Kenny Marengo

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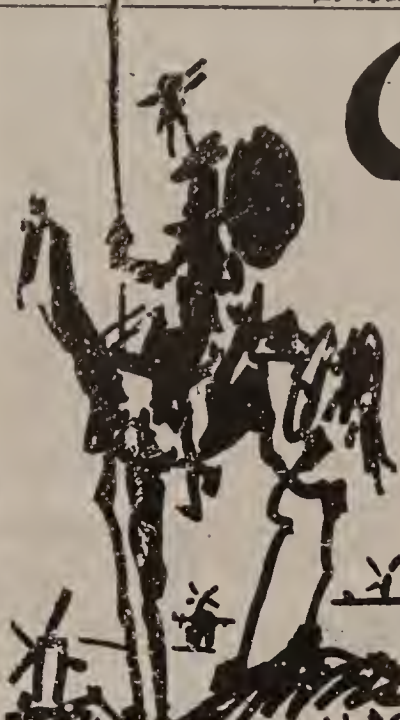
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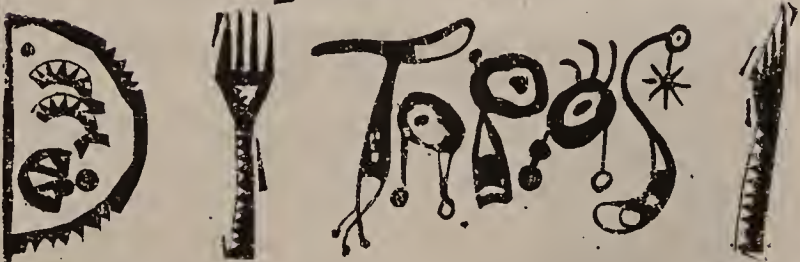
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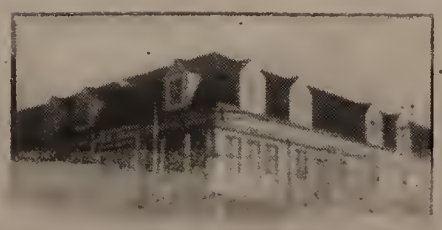
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Richard Pitt

Are menstrual periods natural?

An article in the November issue of *Working Mother* discusses the research and ideas behind using birth control pills to totally suppress menstrual periods. The normal procedure has been to take the pill for 21 days, and then have 7 days without, allowing for bleeding to take place: a kind of artificial menstrual period.

Now research is being done which, if accepted by the FDA, could lead to the pill's being prescribed to be taken continuously, enabling women to avoid having periods altogether or, at the most, to have 3-4 periods a year.

Part of the logic behind this thinking is that women now have more periods than ever before. Children often begin their periods as early as 9-10 years of age, and since many women delay having children until their thirties and then often have only 1-2 children, they experience increased hormonal "wear and tear" from repeated menstrual cycles.

The research suggests that relieving women of menstrual periods may also prevent many period-related diseases, especially ovarian and uterine cancer.

Some doctors in the field question the logic and science behind this thinking, citing a lack of sufficient evidence as yet to support these theories. There is truth in the fact that, in the past, women had more children and therefore would have had fewer periods, and this is one factor that can prevent cancer in women. However, as with the use of many drugs, we do not really know all the implications of taking hormones continually to regulate and suppress menstrual cycles.

The pill may benefit women who

no means the only one. Look at natural alternatives as well. There are many ways to help with difficult menses naturally. Drugs aren't the only way to go. as "anytime you stop ovulation, you're preserving eggs, which improves the chance for reproductive success in later years."

However, we already know that taking the pill can increase the risk of blood-clotting problems and stroke and heart disease in those at risk, and it can be risky for women suffering from migraines or hypertension, or those who smoke after the age of 35 or who have liver disease.

There is also controversy over whether the pill increases the risk of breast cancer. Apparently not, according to the Centers for Disease Control, but it has to be said that the explosion in breast cancers in general may well have a hormonal link to it, including the use of the pill over the last 30 years.

Already doctors actively prescribe the pill to treat menstrual disorders in women over 40 years of age. The logic is to control hormones through the 40s and then to lead women straight into hormone replacement therapy as they go through menopause.

Is this just treating menstruation and menopause as pathological processes that need to be controlled and manipulated by medicine, a symptom of patriarchal medicine on the female body? Or is it just the application of benign science to assist us in dealing with the body's limitations?

The fact is, for some women the pill is a nightmare; for others it is a great help. Taking hormones to deal with the difficulties of menstruation or menopause is one thing, but it is by

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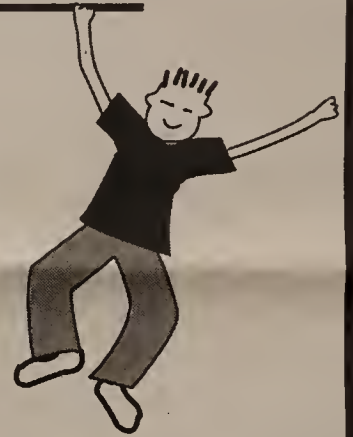
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Sunday, January 13, 2002 10:00 am to 3:00 pm

Mission Dolores Auditorium, 3321 16th Street

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- Proof of San Francisco residency (like a driver's license or utility bills)
- Proof of income (such as a recent paycheck stub, or a letter from an employer)
- Birth Certificate & Social Security Card (for children born in the U.S.)
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Editor:

When I read the "To The Egress" interview with Mr. Jason Albertson I could not help feeling appalled about the attitude of the tenants of this town. What are their expectations of the rental property owners?

Mr. Albertson claims that he "paid the mortgage" of the building he lived in. Yes, and then who paid the taxes and the insurances, the upkeep and maintenance? Did the owner pay?

So then Mr. Albertson actually lived in housing subsidized by the owner, since he only paid the mortgage. And how many hundred of thousands of dollars for the down payment?? What a deal Mr. Albertson had. But does he know it? And Mr. Albertson asked the new owner (whose mother had helped her two daughters

Letters to the Editor

buy the place) for "a little extra moving costs—a cool two grants that was gonna tide me over until I picked up my next job".

Mr. Albertson's attitude is all too common among renters. It demonstrates the arrogance, egocentricity and feelings of entitlements that can only be nourished in an environment of total ignorance of economics. No wonder that there are 10,000-25,000 rental units permanently removed from the rental market in San Francisco.

Kira Eldemir

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Pet of the month

I'm Tori, an 11-year-old torti with white Domestic Short Hair. I'm a sweet, 10-pound girl anxiously waiting for a quiet, patient household to call my own. I can be shy at first, but I warm up to people who use a gradual, low-key approach. Once I'm comfortable, I'm a real lap cat. To establish a trusting relationship with a shy cat like me, it's best to talk softly and move slowly.

When we interact, get down on my level, instead of towering over me. Encourage me to play with an interactive toy, like a cat dancer or fishing pole-type toy, but make sure the toy isn't too big and scary. Regular play sessions can help me overcome my shyness and bond with you. Let me explore my new home one room at a time. Start me out in a quiet "safe" room, where I'll feel comfortable while I adapt to my new territory. I'll become more confident as I get used to my surroundings and daily routine.



At 11, I'm a mature gal, but I'm still active. I'm well past the high-energy kitten stage of life, so I'm less demanding than a youngster. I won't be climbing your curtains in play or racing around your bedroom in the middle of the night. Kittens usually find homes quickly, but cats my age really need your love. If you have room in your heart and home for a quiet, mellow kitty who prefers to be the only cat in the household, I'm the girl for you.

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Library Lady



Mission Branch

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We have a huge collection of resume and cover letter books (for example, The Damn Good Resume Guide), as well as books on choosing a career, interviewing and other aspects of the job search. Use free Internet access to look for jobs. JobStar.org is a good place to start, or use the many links from the Library's home page. Study for employment tests with our collection of test books or the new LearnATest database.

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Programs at the Mission Library

January Special Program for all ages – Chinese Lion Dancers on Saturday, January 19 at 4:00 p.m. Celebrate Chinese New Year!

There are Children's storytimes in English and Spanish on Thursday and Saturday mornings. Call 415-695-5090 for more information.

See you at the library!

The Library Lady

You can send a question directly to Library Lady, c/o The New Mission News, 3288 21st Street, Box 202, San Francisco, CA 94110, or feel free to email her at Librarylady@sfppl.org



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Tuesday, January 29th at 7:30 pm

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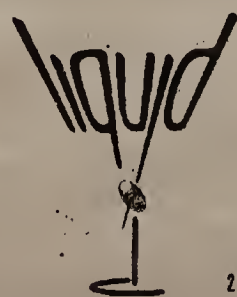
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Poems of the Month

*From the statement of the Revolutionary
Association of the Women of Afghanistan
issued on December 10, 2001 (International
Human Rights Day)*

Our devastated motherland, draped in
unending mourning, escaped the talons
of Taliban criminality only to find itself
in the dead-end of jihadi murderers; a
“dead-end” which eludes description and
definition, except perhaps in the potent
and glorious words of Ahmad Shamlu.
But RAWA, together with the Afghan
people who bore it, will never desist
from struggling to break out of this :

“dead-end”

In This Deadend
They smell your breath.
You better not have said, “I love you.”
They smell your heart.
These are strange times, darling...
And they flog
love
at the roadblock.
We had better hide love in the closet...
In this crooked dead end and twisting chill,
they feed the fire
with the kindling of song and poetry.
Do not risk a thought.
These are strange times, darling...
He who knocks on the door at midnight
has come to kill the light.
We had better hide light in the closet...
Those there are butchers
stationed at the crossroads
with bloody clubs and cleavers.
These are strange times, darling...
And they excise smiles from lips
and songs from mouths.
We had better hide joy in the closet...
Canaries barbecued
on a fire of lilies and jasmine,
these are strange times, darling...
Satan drunk with victory
sits at our funeral feast.
We had better hide God in the closet.

URIN

You're in
urin
on the street
sitting in filthy clothes
because you haven't bathed
in days and you threw up
your bottle of whiskey all over
yourself

Everything's a blur to you
on this hangover morning
and people step by you
and over you.

They don't know you're a mother
and that you were evicted from your
apartment by greedy landlords
who sold their building
to some young dot comers.

You ask for change.
People don't know your daughter
was taken from you and put in
foster care. You don't go to see her.
No, they see the wasteland you've become,
sunk to the bottom of the food chain.
slumped in a garbage life of
suffering.

It stabs them in the heart with a
knife blade of fear. they don't want to be
you, so they scurry away
like mice running from an alley cat
eyes dilated wide with fear.

Through your whiskey haze it feels
like you're stuck in hell and they've got
the upside.

They wear nice clothes,
drink Peets coffee, talk on cel phones
and have places to go.

Don't be fooled my friend,
it's just another rat filled
maze with cheese nuggets
at the end of some routes
and nasty steel death traps
at the end of others.

Diane Sherman July 2000

The Patient-Mother- Victim: Sra. Gudalupe Ramirez goes to the psychiatrist

Tears, pearls that cut her flesh in falling
torn flesh, cut up flesh.
Blood tears, rubies floating
in grease and grime.
Her flesh opened like an orphan child.
She cries.

Furrows marked with pain
for each year lost year.
The beggar turned out in the cold.
Daughter in black robe,
son, today's Judas, glass cutter,
cutting through her skin and flesh.
She cries.

The bitterness all at once in bundles come
fruit of once kind and caring unions
show how deep the pain can cut.
No future, no past, no present.
She cries.

Time now hangs in space between ice walls
in unloving, cold, uncaring hearts
Pearls Rubies Grime
Furrows Lost-Years Beggar
Daughter-Son-Judas Glass-Cutter Flesh-Pain
She cries, cries, cries.

Camincha

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Sonny Smith

Steppin' out

Got a call from the Chief: he said there was a dead body washed up on shore by Pier 70, down by the shipyard. I went down there to check it out. Body was unidentifiable, ripped in half, ribs shattered, torn up, head scalped and eyes clawed out. It was a sick sight even for me and, baby, I've seen it all. Fingerprints brought up nothing but this name: 'San Francisco Rock 2001.' What could that mean? I looked around for clues. Who would kill it anyway? I couldn't find a damn thing. Nothing. So I beat it for the track. It was raining, so all my figures didn't matter.

Lineup looked like a good one, but everything's different in the rain, like I said. I checked out the schedule. EXPERIMENTAL ART ROCK was 3-1 odds. ART ROCK was a sucker horse anyway, a San Francisco favorite from way back but it always had its problems, and now that the tech boom was over, ART ROCK didn't have much to say. Then, I couldn't believe my eyes: COLLEGE ROCK was still hangin' around. COLLEGE ROCK had come out from the east coast, mostly.

I thought that bag of glue was gone, but apparently there's still an influx of white-collar numjobs who like it when their friend Rick funks out up on stage. Now PUNK ROCK looked all right, but it hadn't been the same since the Chameleon died years ago. Had a couple good workouts at Mission Records on weekend afternoons, plus Kimo's and Covered Wagon were tryin' hard to keep it alive.

There was a blonde damsel standin' next to me, puffin' on a cool refreshing Exporte. She was looking at my notes. I piped in fast: "Can I help you, lady?"

"I don't know who to bet on."

"Ok then. Look at PUNK ROCK. Old horse, legs are getting tired. Problem with PUNK, in this town nobody knows what it is anymore. Look at the gait on that horse, it's got no definition. And the thing is, NOISY STUFF has been ridin' right behind it lately and I'll bet she passes on the last stretch.

"The 2nd horse?"

"Yeah, she's got the inside rail. People like NOISY STUFF a lot in this town, and she runs well in the mud. But it's a one-trick pony sometimes; it grabs the rail on the inside for a few lengths, then fades like a cheap suit. NOISY STUFF got a lotta help in the press this year; the odds are low, so you won't make anything off this horse 'less you combo-bet it, like a triple. Pink and Brown gave it some help, Angry Amputees gave it some feed, in fact it could be growin' since Mcguirk wrote that article in the *Guardian*. But it's always hard to say with NOISY STUFF.

"Now here's a looker, ROCK WITH COUNTRY SHIT PUT IN; Christ! look how bad the odds are here; know why the odds are so bad? Cause nobody expects alt. country to win at an SF track, that's why. People don't see this as a good track for country, but there's a twang in this breed and it can run. Now, here's a horse you gotta look at: horrible odds and who knows who this jockey is, but SHE BANDS has made a steady climb this last year.

Erase Errata put it over the top. Now, San Francisco's got a good record with SHE BANDS, of course, 'cause hey, if there's a town on this globe with woman power, you know it's San Francisco. Surprisingly, it was waning last year and it's just now comin' back. Maybe the tech boom put it out for a while, but Corner Tour, Hall Flowers and AC/DSHE put it back on top."

The blonde was looking at my notes again, lookin' at my numbers and I don't like it when people check out my numbers even if it is a busty dame like her. She looked like the type that would bet on a horse 'cause she thought it was pretty, that's what some dames do, see... either 'cause the horse is pretty or 'cause they like the name and sometimes, sometime they'll even bet 'cause of the size of its dinger. I know, it's sad but true. I acted interested. "Who are you bettin' on?"

"Oh, I don't know." She looked concerned. "FOLK ROCK?"

"Oh God, you're torturing me! Aha! So you like the pretty horses, that it?" I figured her for a dinger patron, but she surprised me.

"FOLK ROCK is bad?"

"In this town it is, lady; real bad. Now, there are some folk singers that are standouts— Dave Dondaro, Kelly Stoltz— but they donon't have nothing to do with FOLK ROCK. In fact, they're beyond ridin' a horse like that. FOLK ROCK is dogfood, baby."

"What about JAZZ?"

"Jazz isn't in this race, dummy. This race is a no-money purse for 'rock-n-roll-bands-that-have-never-been-signed-to-a-major-label-or-made-a-fuckin-cent-but-have-made-at-least- some-bumper-stickers-or-t-shirts-and-have-at-least-played-at-the-stork-club-or-the-eagle-and-somebody-from-Aquarius-Records-probably-thought-they-were-cool-for-at-least-one-week."

"Oh."

"Anyway, JAZZ in this town sucks. Don't bet on her."

"Oh, what about—"

"The race is about to start. And shut your mouth, you look like a goddamn fish."



The announcer came on and the horses came bursting out of the gate. The announcer started shoutin' as fast as he could: "PUNKROCK comes out in the lead by two, NOISY STUFF comin' in right behind... EXPERIMENTAL ART ROCK looks stuck in the gate, PUNK is fading, PUNK is fading, nowhere to go... NOISY STUFF takes the lead, but look at this! ROCK WITH COUNTRY SHIT PUT IN is grabbin' the outside, makin' stride and jockey Granfaloon Bus is whippin' her hard... but wait a minute! SHE BAND is comin' up on the lead.

She's grabbed the inside rail, there'll be a party at the Lexington tonight, but NO!!!, FOLK ROCK has fallen, FOLK ROCK has fallen and taken down SHE BAND! That leaves ROCK WITH COUNTRY SHIT PUT IN and NOISY STUFF dueling for the lead, but, oh my God- look at this, something I've never seen! Look at this young unknown, she's taken the lead folks, she's whipping everybody. And it's SOMETHING NEW by a quarter-length folks! SOMETHING NEW!

Then the race ended and the blonde started gabbin' away again: "But I don't get it. Who won?"

"SOMETHING NEW, dummy."

"But where is she? I don't see SOMETHING NEW."

"I don't either. I didn't even see her come in, but I should have known. SOMETHING NEW has been showin' up late at night at all the underground places. You won't see her at the Fillmore anymore, or the Great American Music Hall or even Café Du Nord, possibly. She'll be working out at the Rite Spot on some off night, or maybe playin' some rainy Wednesday night at El Rio or Galia, or just at underground warehouses.

That's where she's been hiding. And the jocks that ride her are the best in town... they'd beat Russell Baze. We're talking about the likes of Kelly Stoltz, Dave Dondarro, Adam Lane, John Dwire, Mary O' Neill, Matt Ingle, those kind of folks. They always ride SOMETHING NEW, they rarely get caught ridin' the other horses."

"WELL, if I knew SOMETHING NEW was even around I would have put my money on her."

"Sure, lady."

Just then I got another call from the chief. He told me some unidentified baby was in trouble uptown. I arrived on the scene; there it was, some kind of stranded baby, up on the top of Coit Tower, hanging by a string. I climbed up and brought the baby down. There was a card pinned to its little baby outfit. It just read, "San Francisco Rock 2002."

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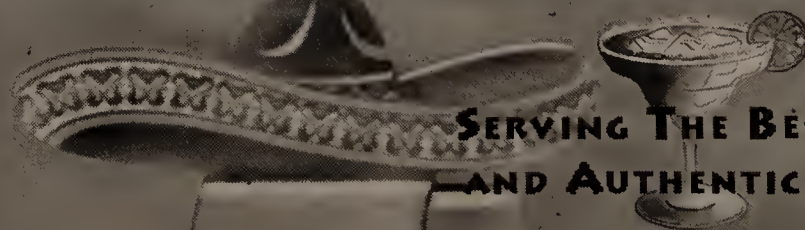
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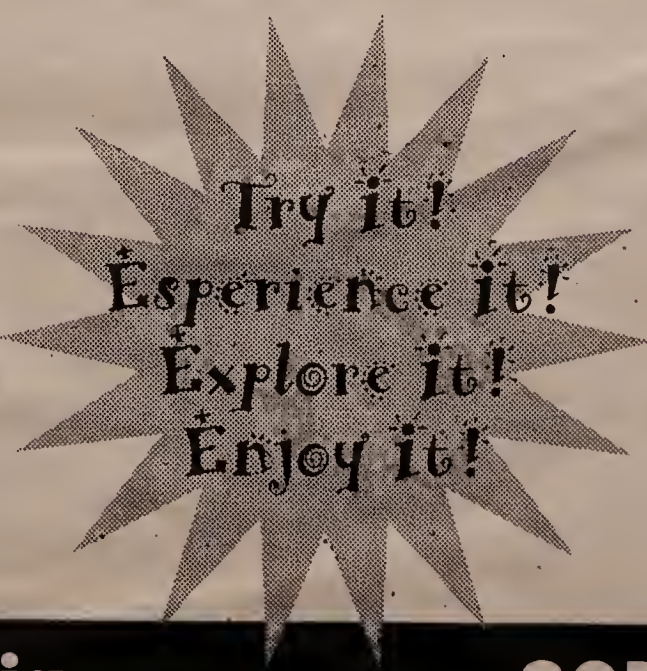
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